



# CS 540 Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

## Neural Networks (III)

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Spring 2022**

# Today's outline

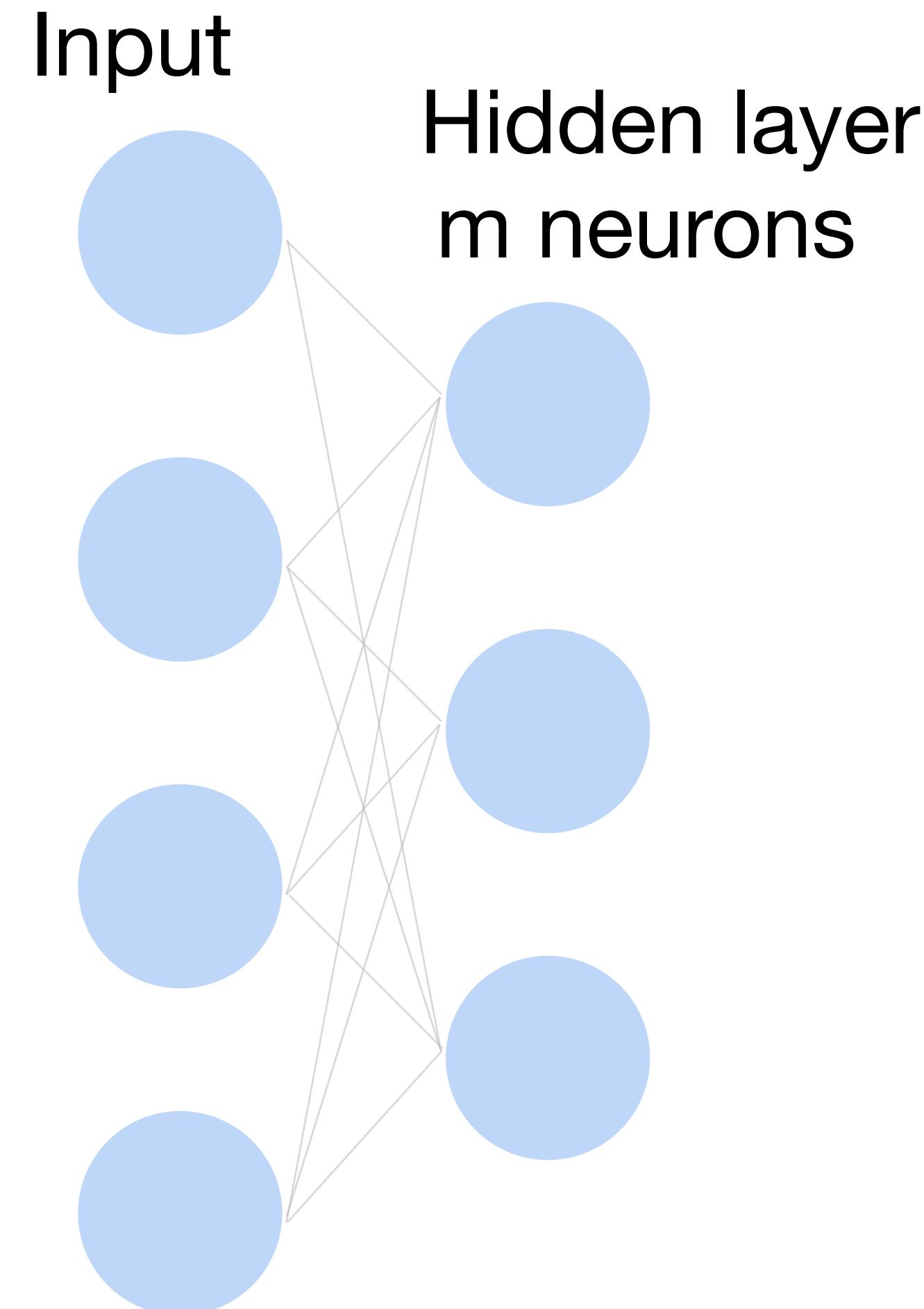
- Deep neural networks
  - Computational graph (forward and backward propagation)
- Numerical stability in training
  - Gradient vanishing/exploding
- Generalization and regularization
  - Overfitting, underfitting
  - Weight decay and dropout



# Part I: Neural Networks as a Computational Graph

# Review: neural networks with one hidden layer

- Input  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Hidden  $\mathbf{W}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- Intermediate output

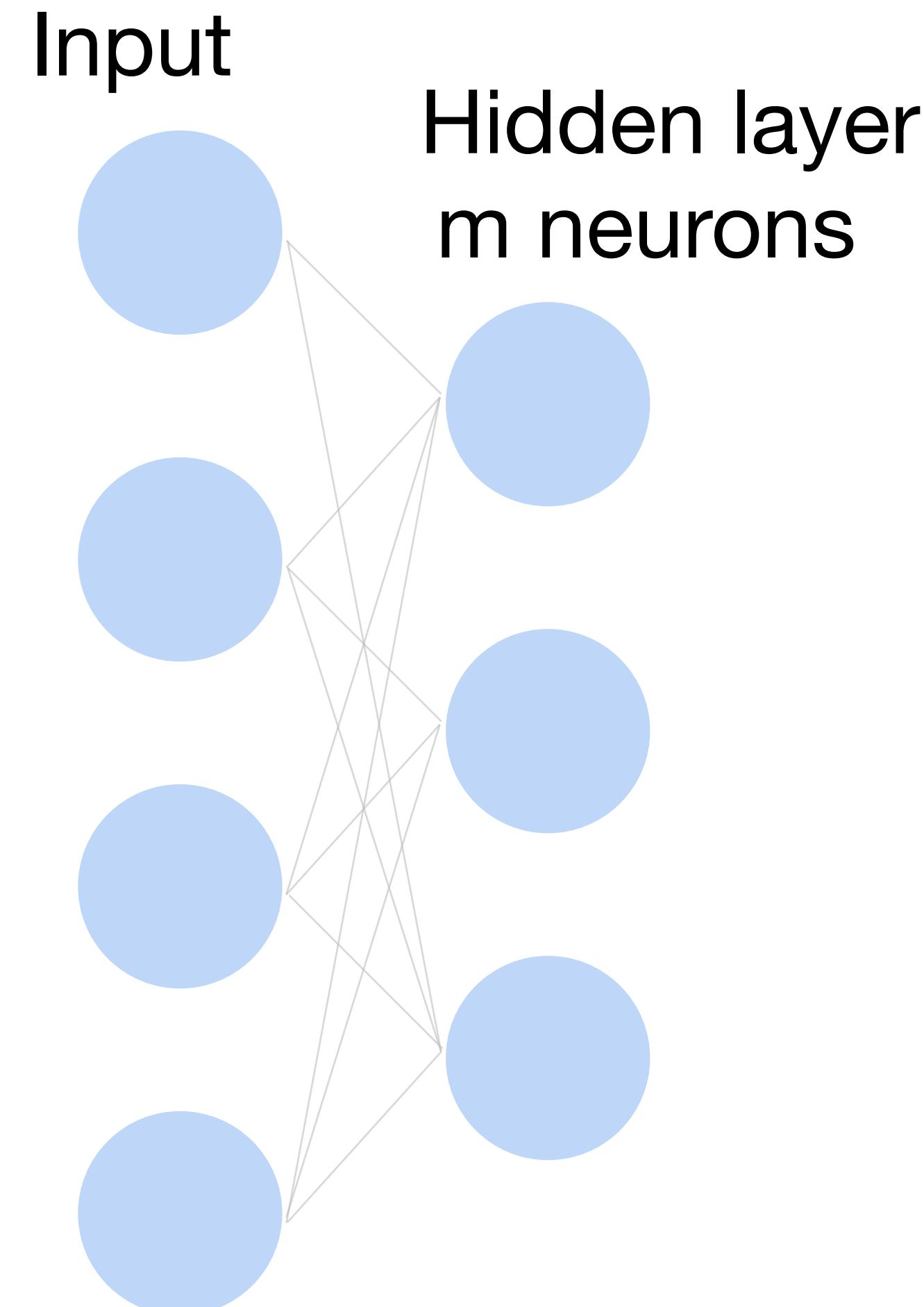


# Review: neural networks with one hidden layer

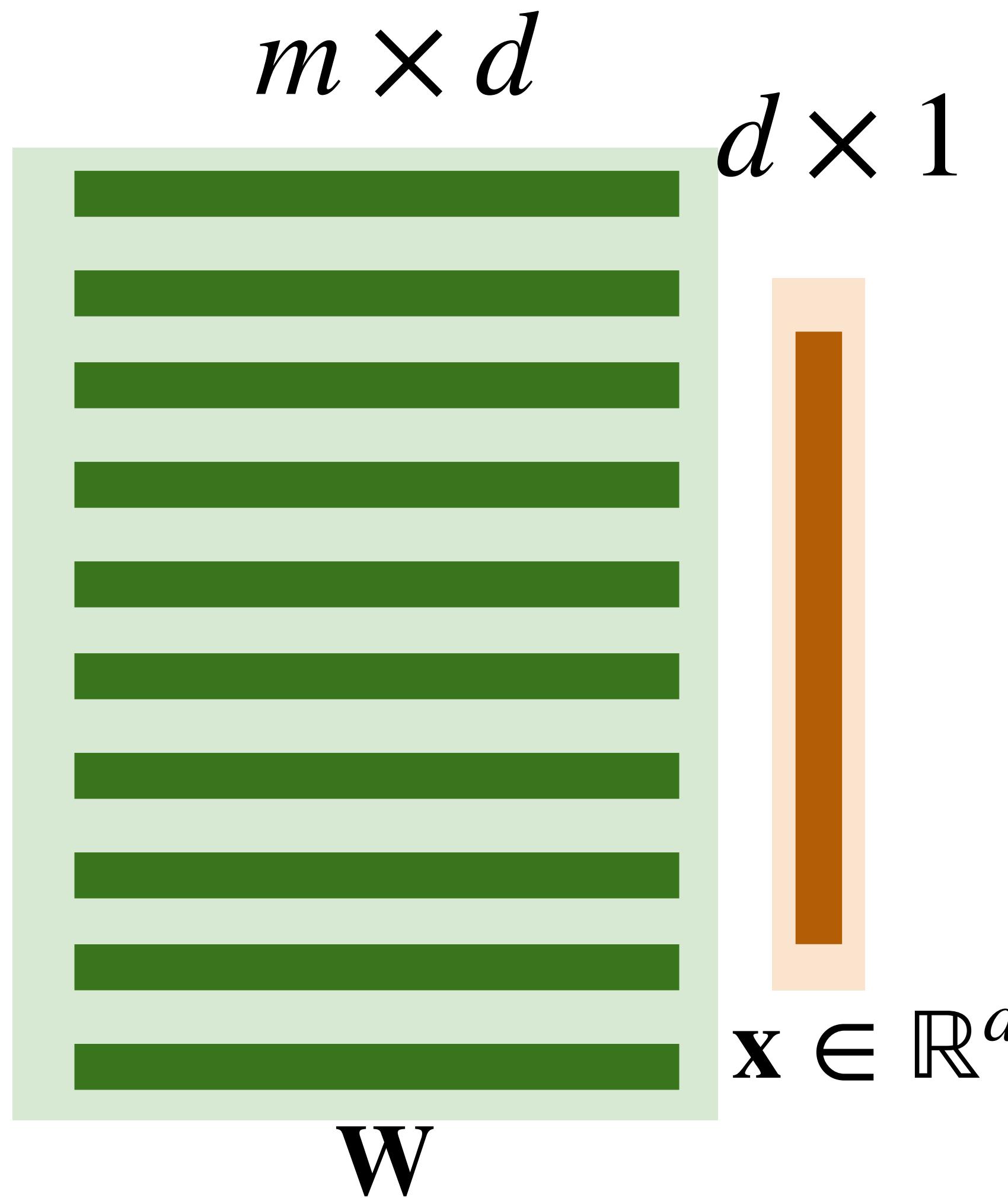
- Input  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Hidden  $\mathbf{W}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- Intermediate output

$$\mathbf{h} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(1)}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^{(1)})$$

$$\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^m$$



# Review: neural networks with one hidden layer



# Review: neural networks with one hidden layer

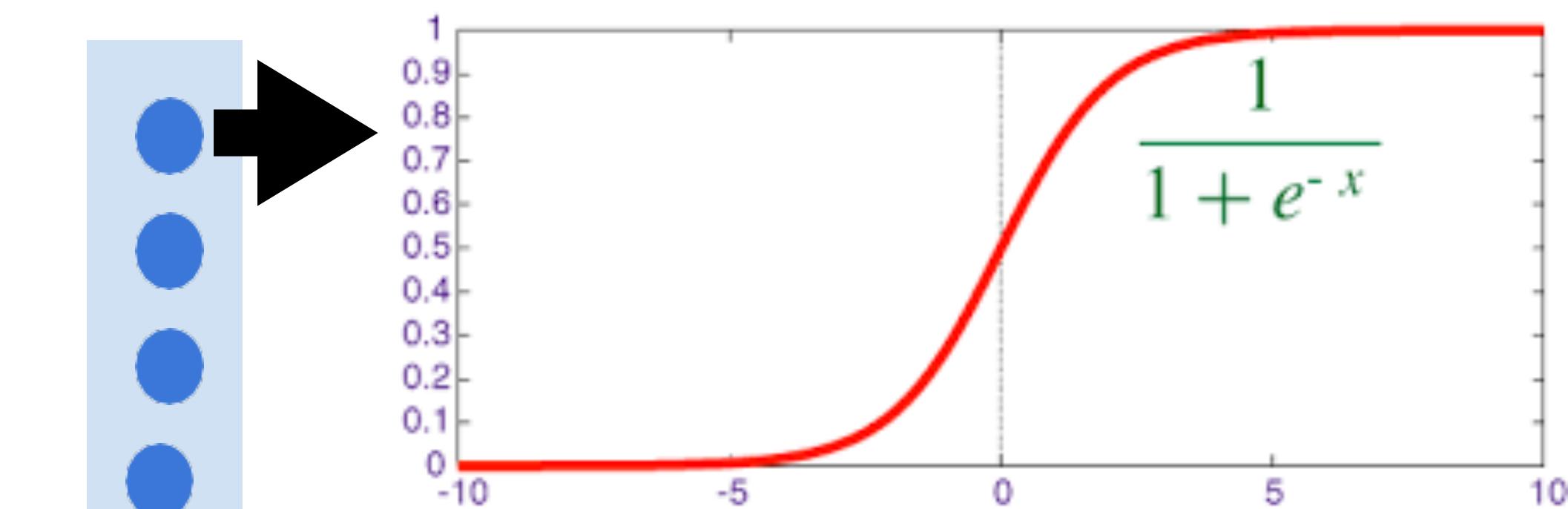
The diagram illustrates the computation of a linear transformation  $y = Wx + b$ . It features four vertical columns representing the inputs and outputs of the operation:

- Input Column (Leftmost):** Labeled  $\mathbf{W}$ , it contains 10 horizontal green bars of varying lengths, representing the rows of a  $m \times d$  matrix.
- Input Column (Second from Left):** Labeled  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , it consists of two vertical bars: an orange bar of height 3 labeled  $d \times 1$  and an orange bar of height 5 labeled  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Intermediate Column (Third from Left):** Labeled  $\mathbf{b}$ , it contains a single green bar of height 10 labeled  $m \times 1$ .
- Output Column (Rightmost):** Labeled  $\mathbf{y}$ , it contains 10 blue circles of varying sizes, representing the output vector  $\mathbf{y}$ .

The diagram also includes a large black plus sign (+) positioned between the second and third columns, indicating the addition operation.

# Review: neural networks with one hidden layer

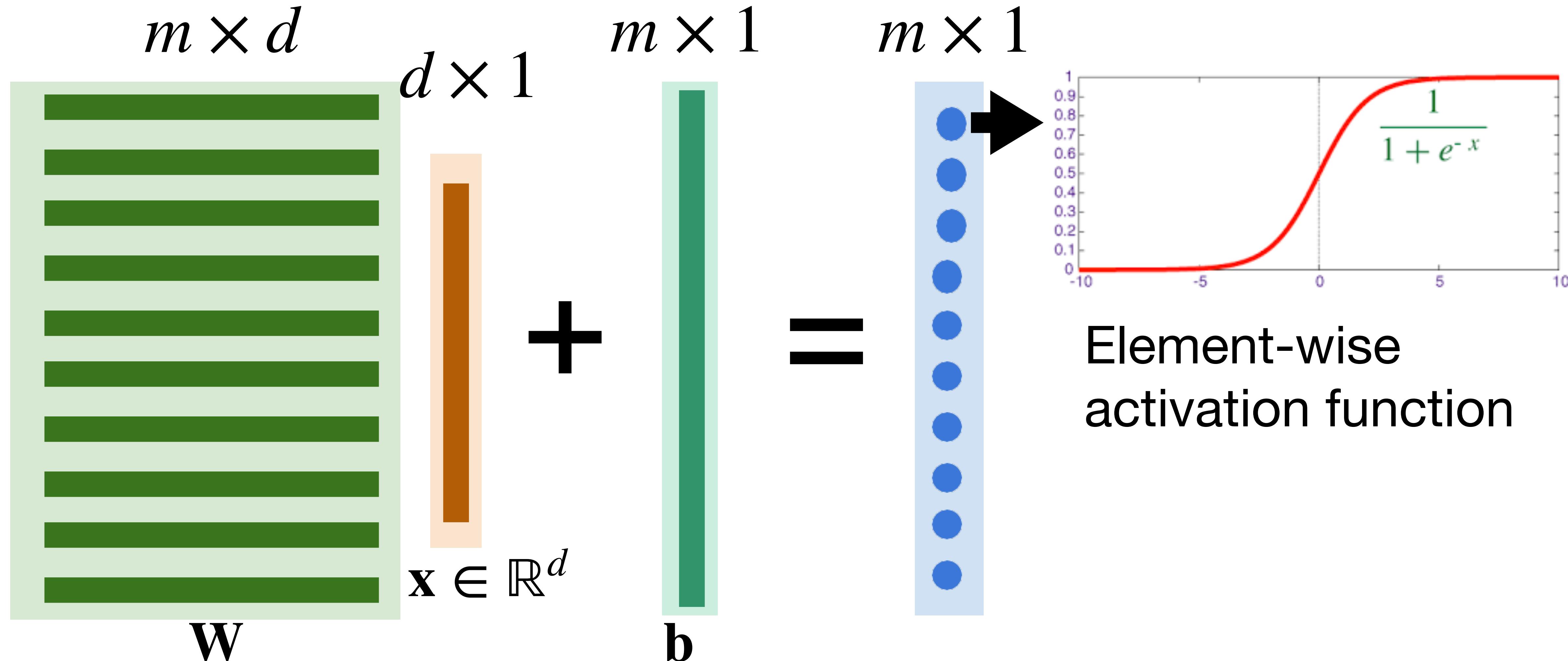
$$\begin{matrix} m \times d & & m \times 1 & \\ \text{W} & \xrightarrow{\quad d \times 1 \quad} & \text{b} & \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] & + & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] & = \\ \text{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d & & \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right] & \end{matrix}$$



Element-wise  
activation function

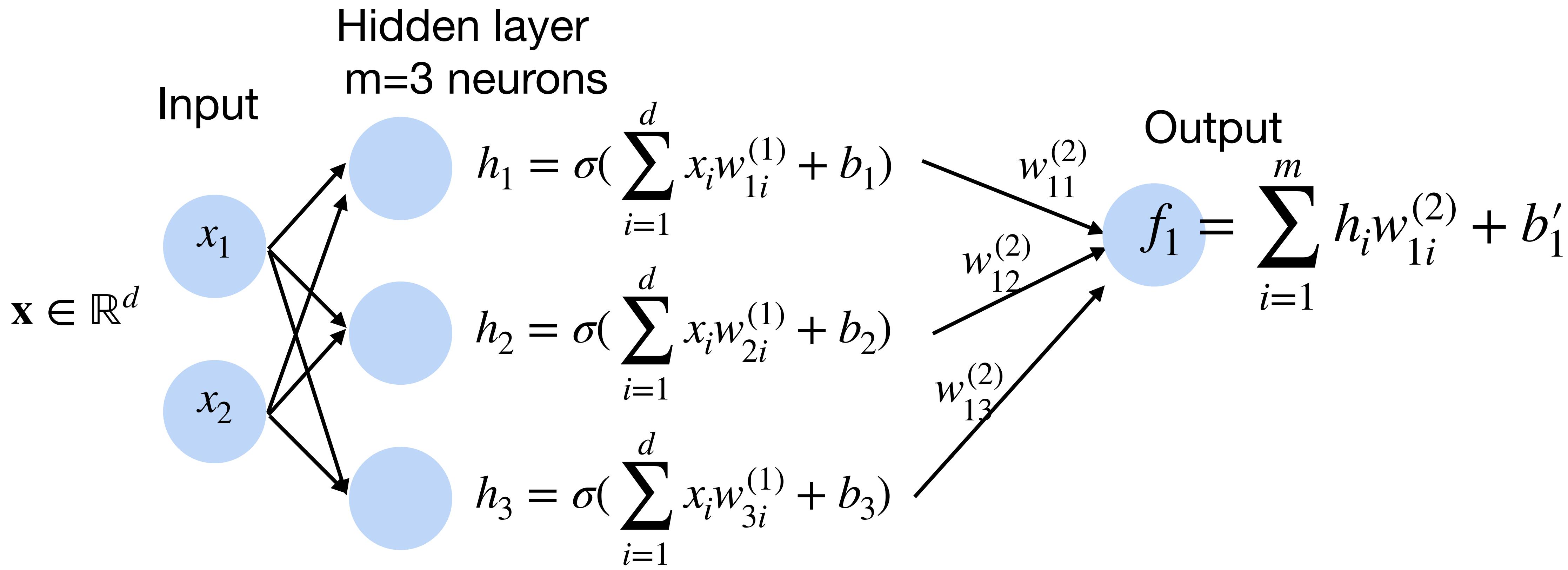
# Review: neural networks with one hidden layer

Key elements: linear operations + Nonlinear activations



# Review: Neural network for K-way classification

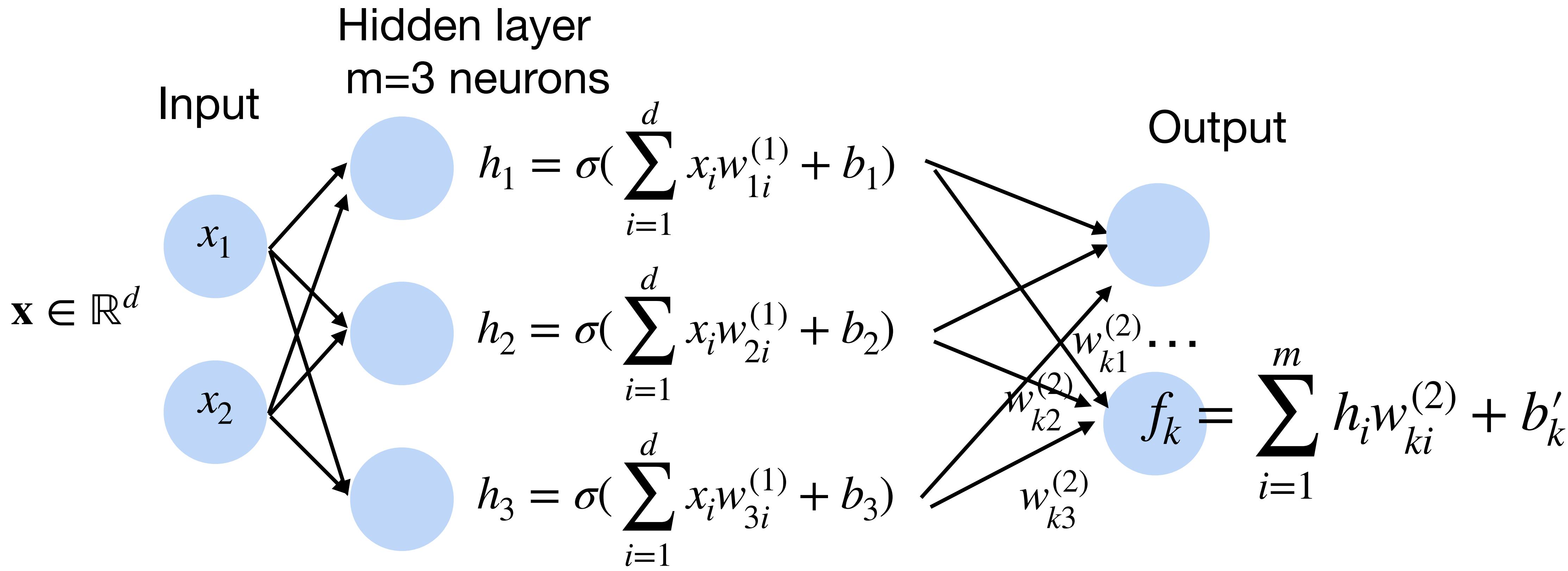
- K outputs in the final layer



# Review: Neural network for K-way classification

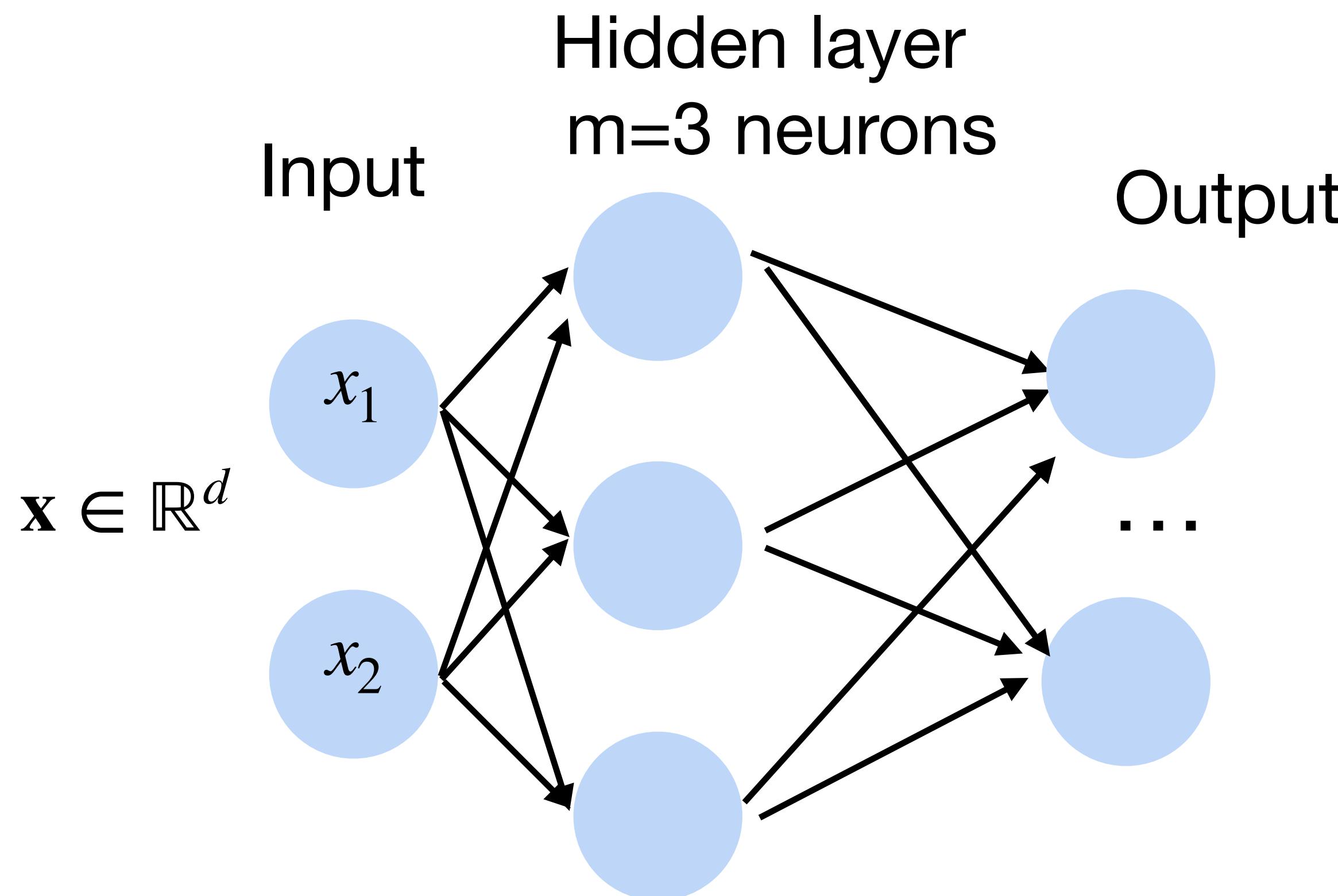
- K outputs units in the final layer

**Multi-class classification** (e.g., ImageNet with K=1000)



# Review: Softmax

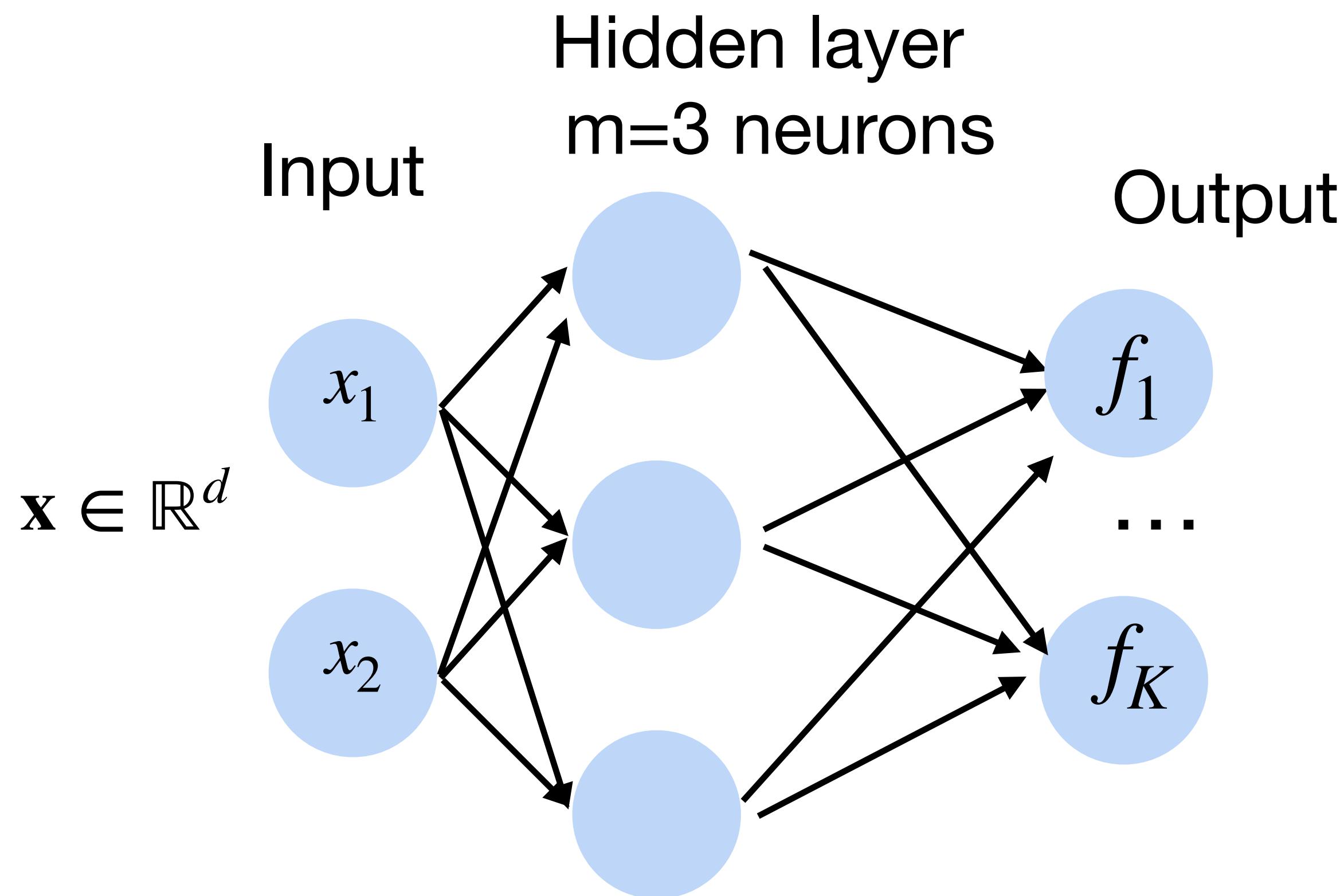
Turns outputs  $f$  into probabilities (sum up to 1 across  $K$  classes)



$$p(y | \mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(f)$$
$$= \frac{\exp(f_y(x))}{\sum_{k=1}^K \exp(f_k(x))}$$

# Review: Softmax

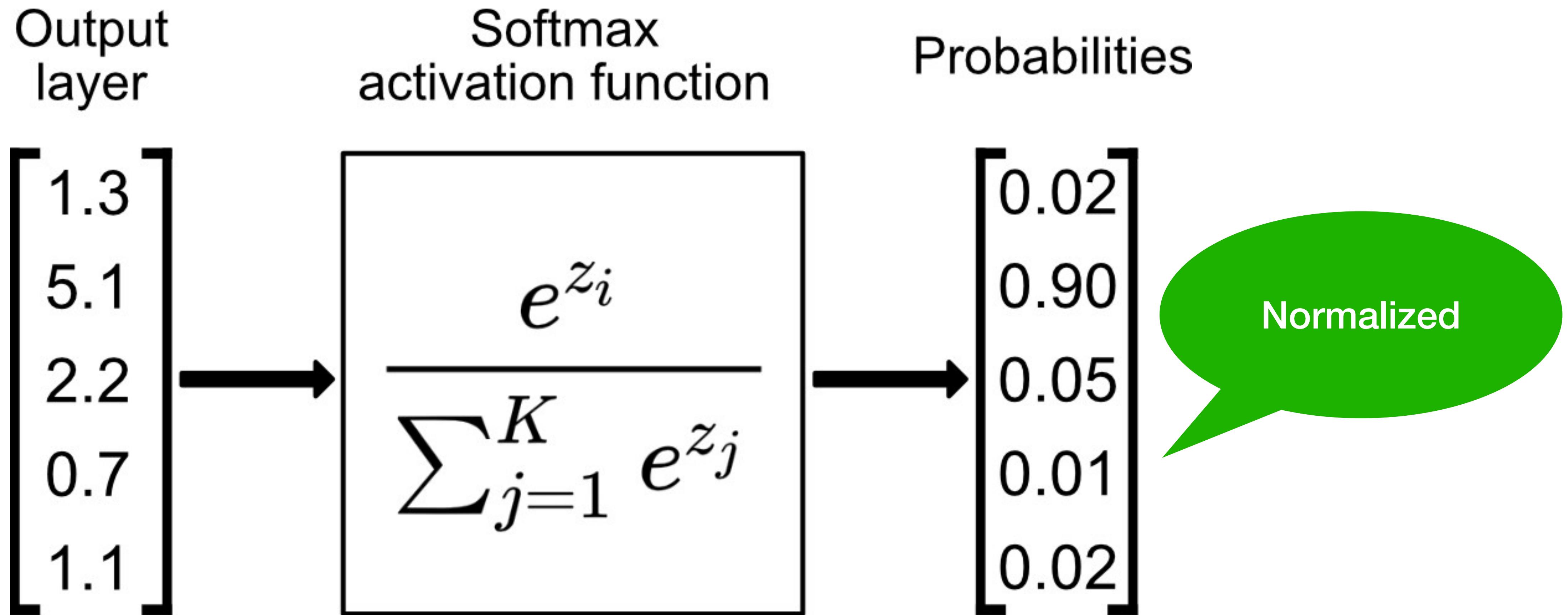
Turns outputs  $f$  into probabilities (sum up to 1 across  $K$  classes)



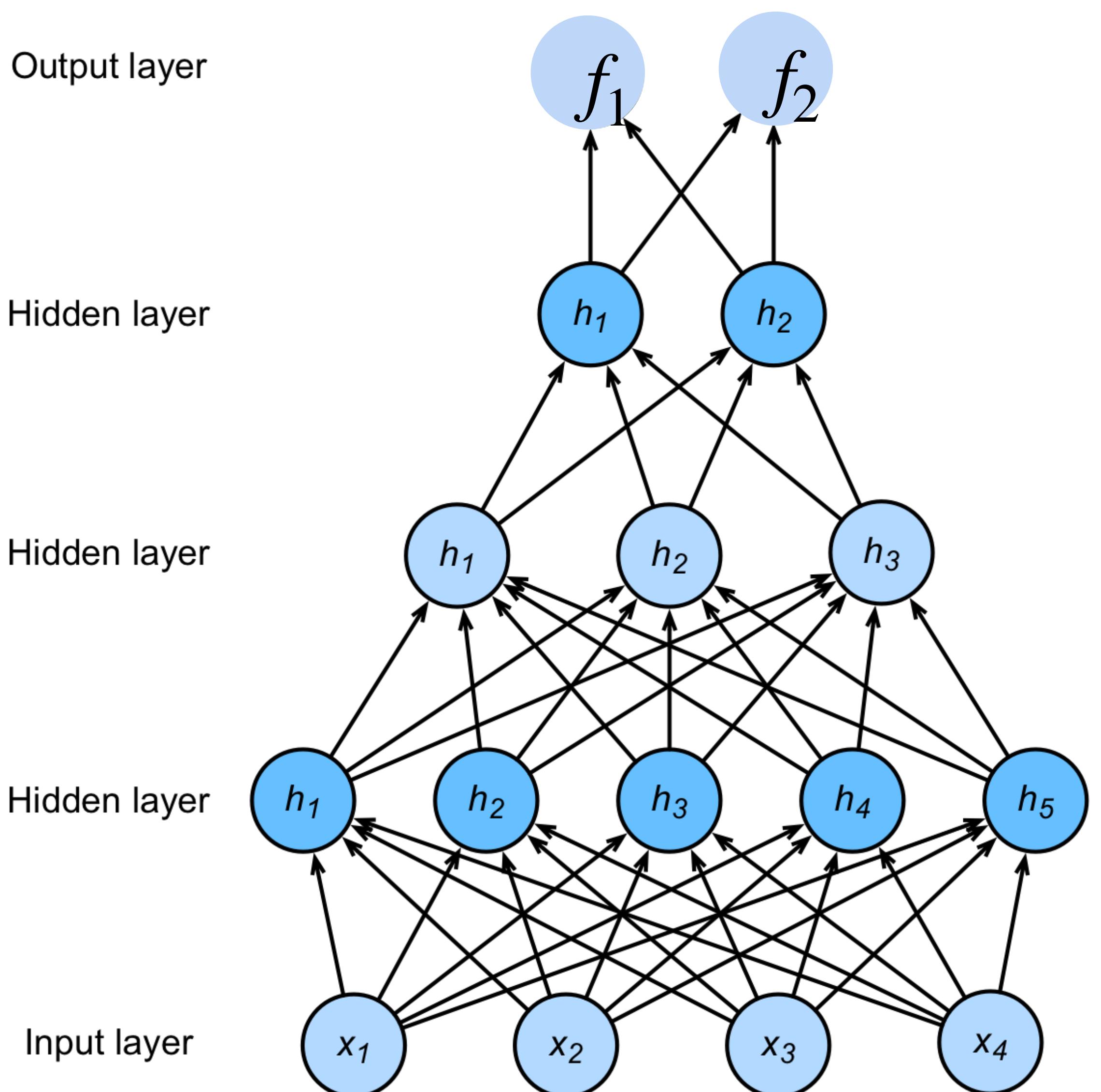
$$p(y | \mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(f) = \frac{\exp(f_y(x))}{\sum_{k=1}^K \exp(f_k(x))}$$

# Softmax

Turns outputs  $f$  into probabilities (sum up to 1 across  $K$  classes)



# Deep neural networks (DNNs)



$$\mathbf{h}_1 = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(1)}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^{(1)})$$

$$\mathbf{h}_2 = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(2)}\mathbf{h}_1 + \mathbf{b}^{(2)})$$

$$\mathbf{h}_3 = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(3)}\mathbf{h}_2 + \mathbf{b}^{(3)})$$

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{W}^{(4)}\mathbf{h}_3 + \mathbf{b}^{(4)}$$

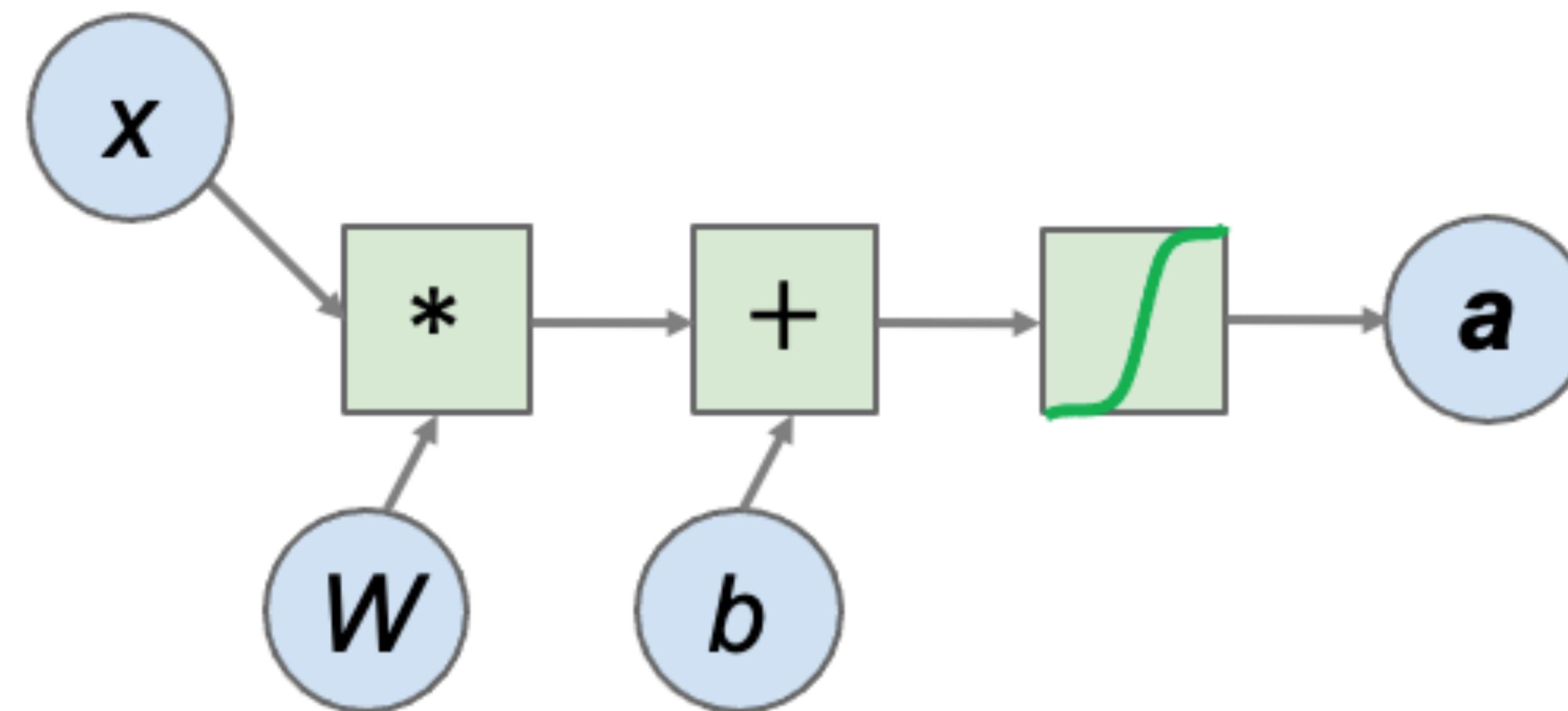
$$\mathbf{p} = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{f})$$

NNs are composition  
of nonlinear  
functions

# Neural networks as variables + operations

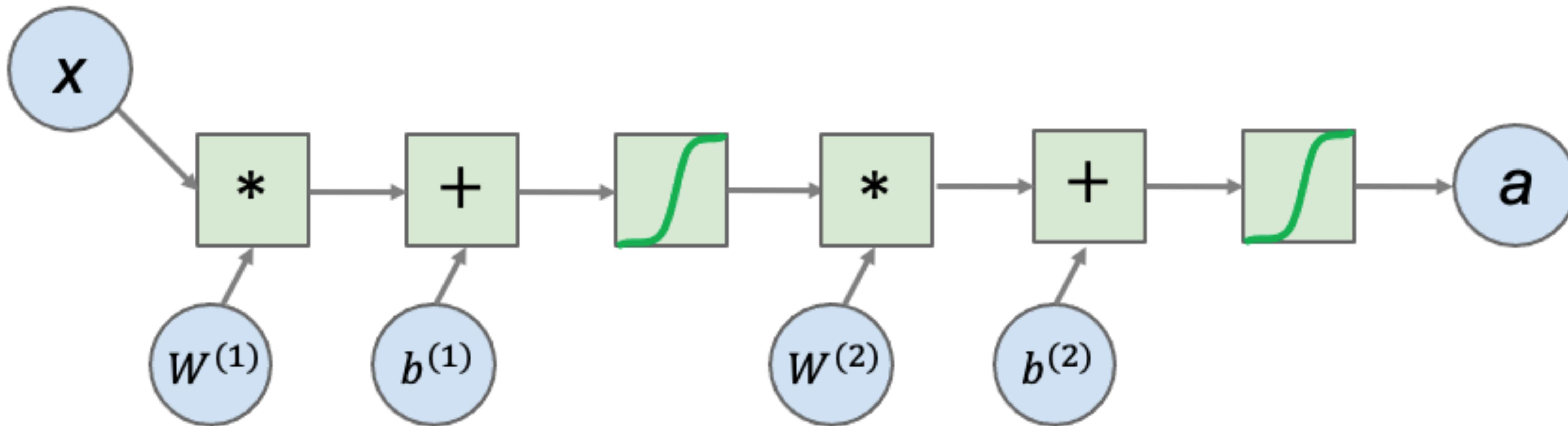
$$a = \text{sigmoid}(Wx + b)$$

- Decompose functions into atomic operations
- Separate data (**variables**) and computing (**operations**)
- Known as a **computational graph**



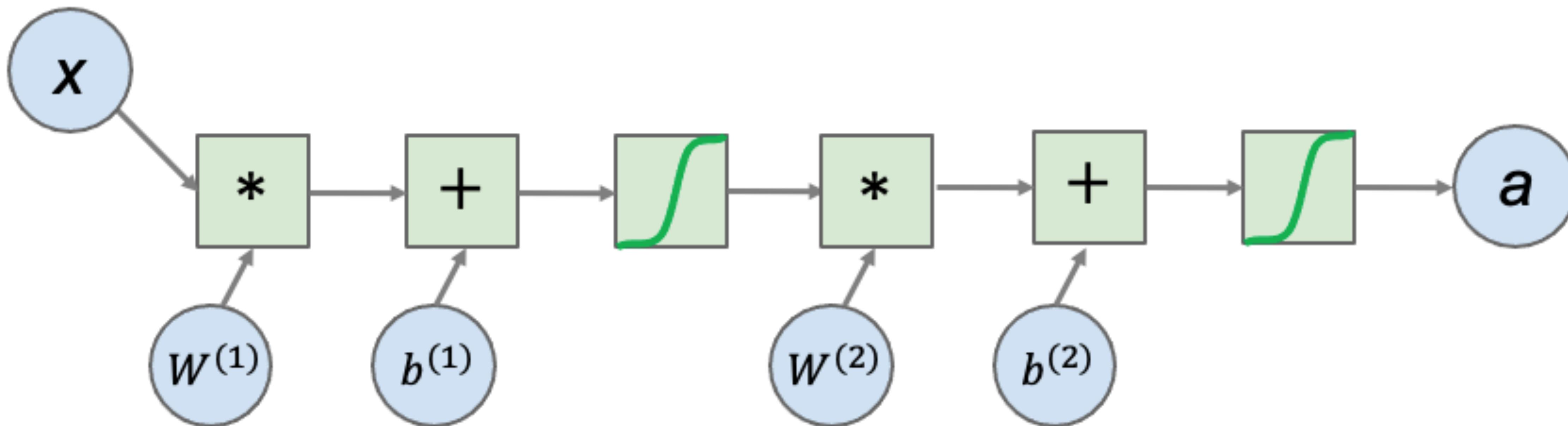
# Neural networks as a computational graph

- A two-layer neural network



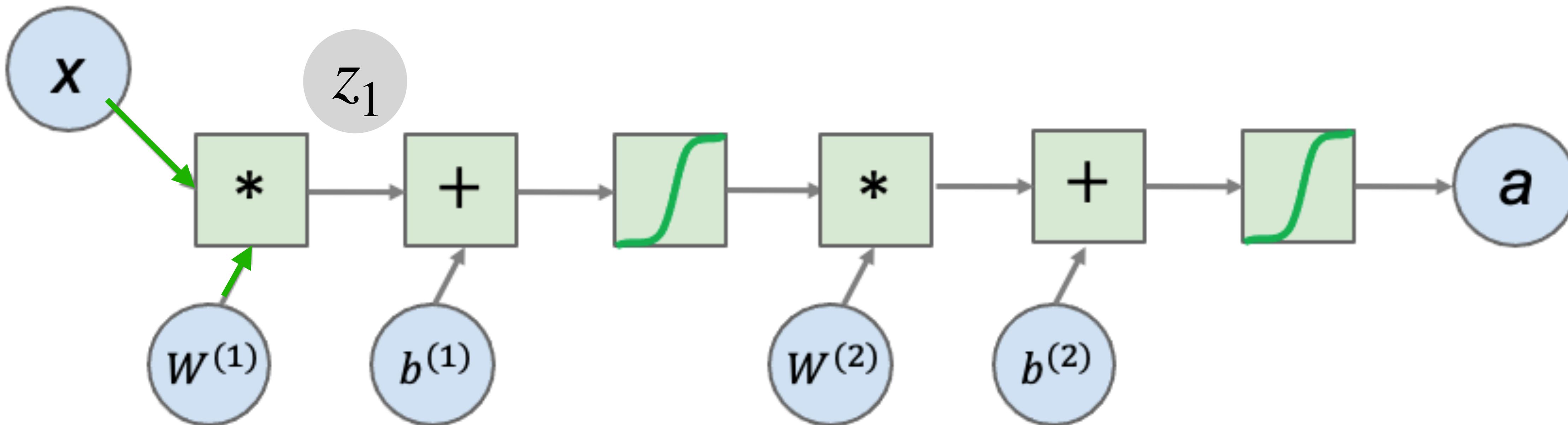
# Neural networks as a computational graph

- A two-layer neural network
- Forward propagation vs. backward propagation



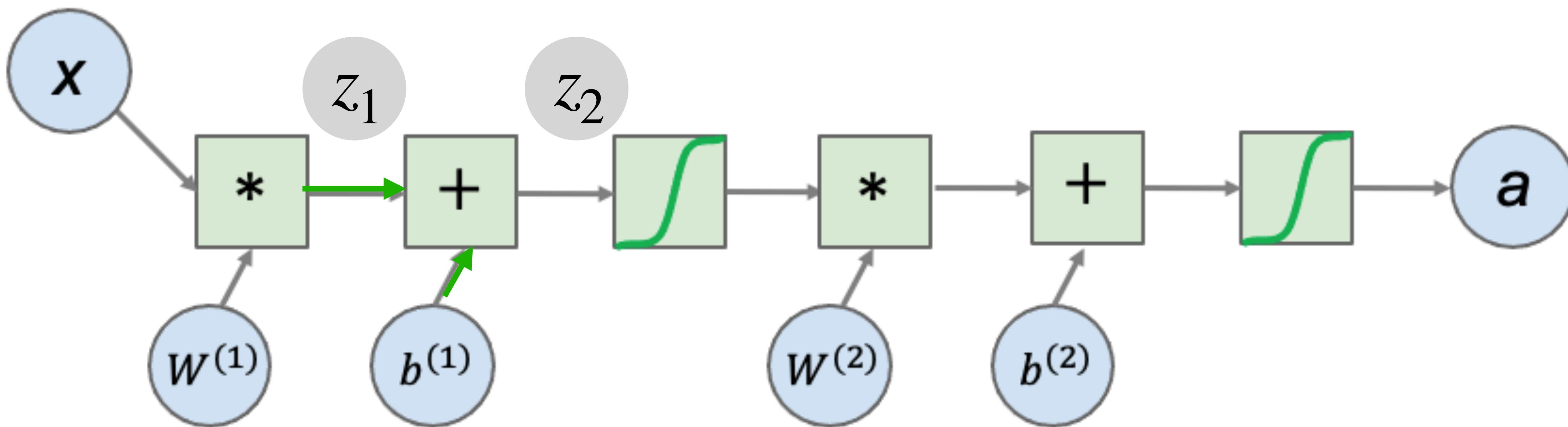
# Neural networks: forward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Intermediate variables  $Z$



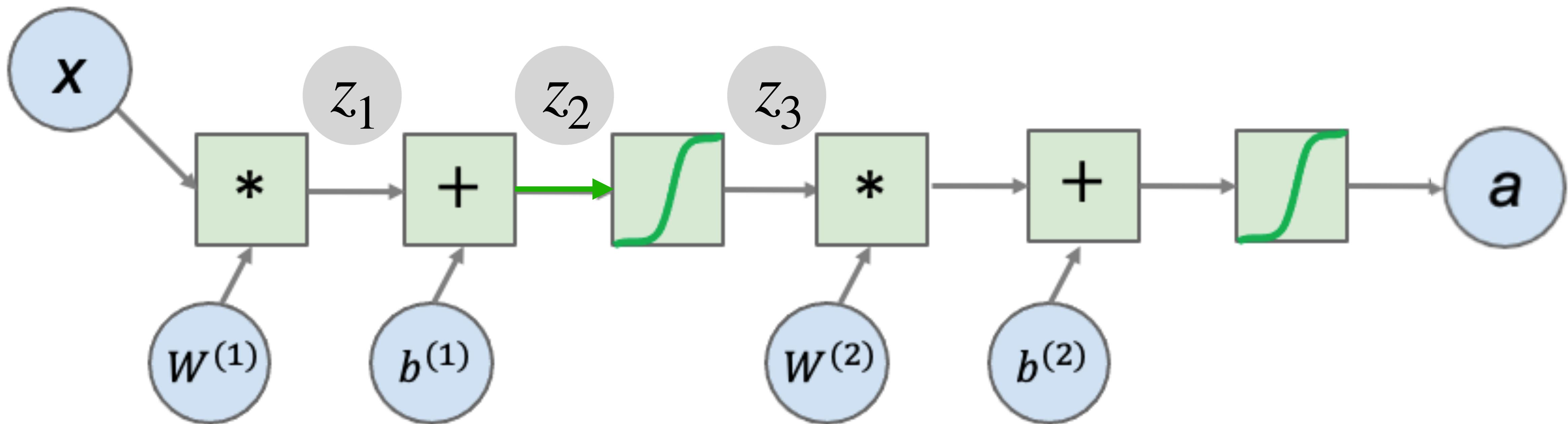
# Neural networks: forward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Intermediate variables  $Z$



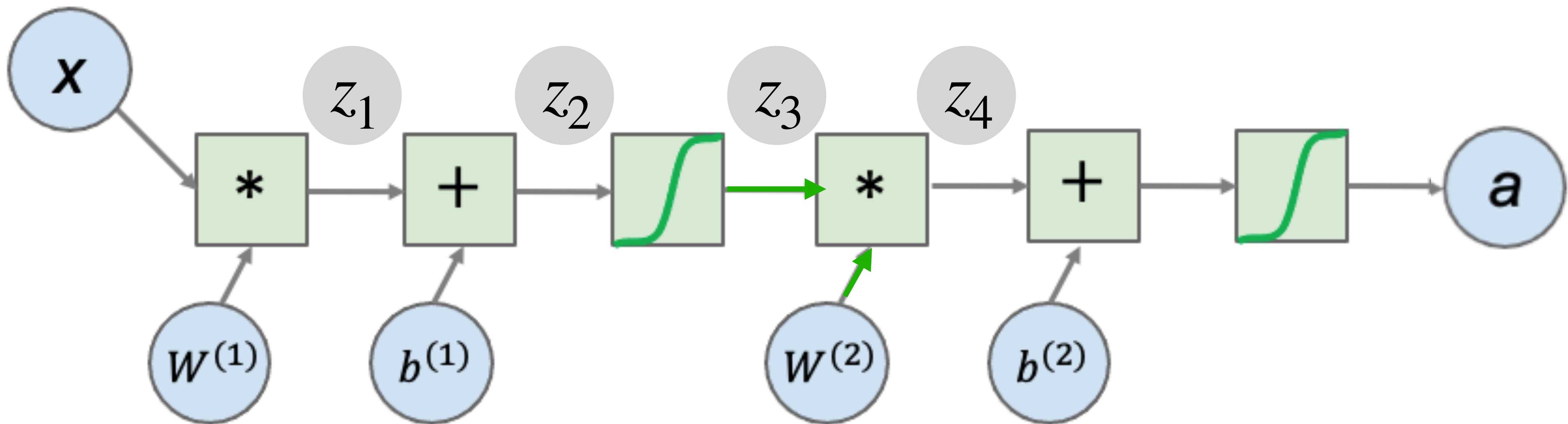
# Neural networks: forward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Intermediate variables  $Z$



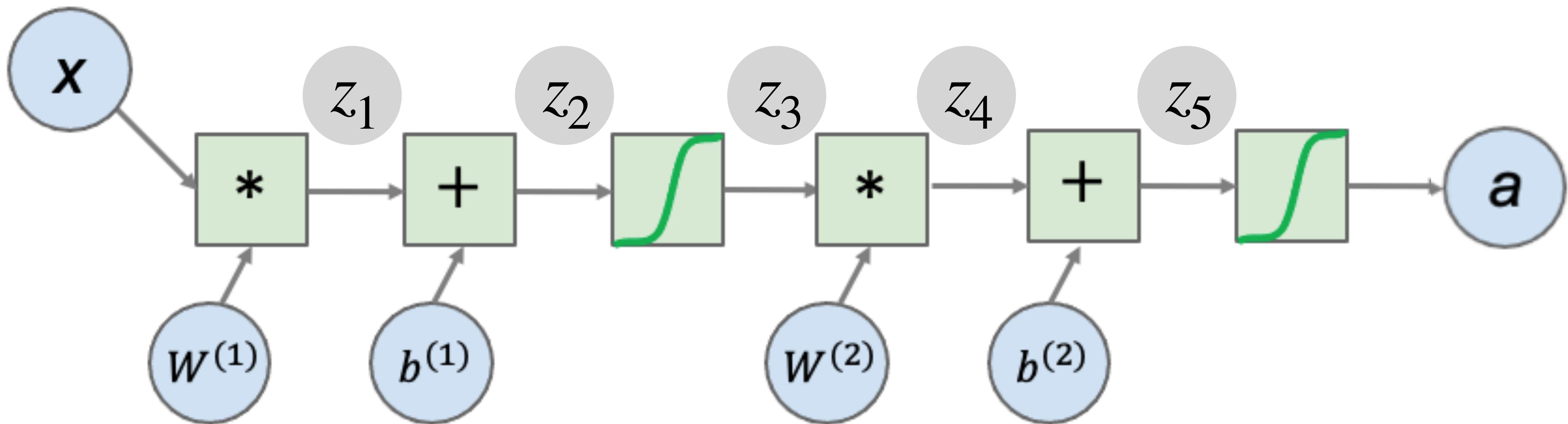
# Neural networks: forward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Intermediate variables  $Z$



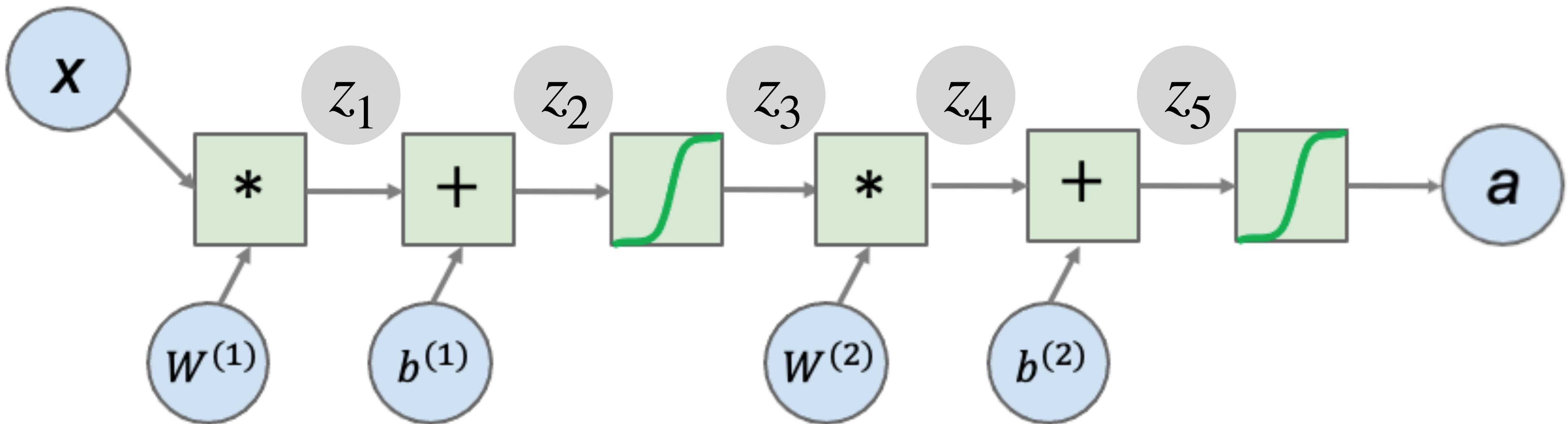
# Neural networks: forward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Intermediate variables  $Z$



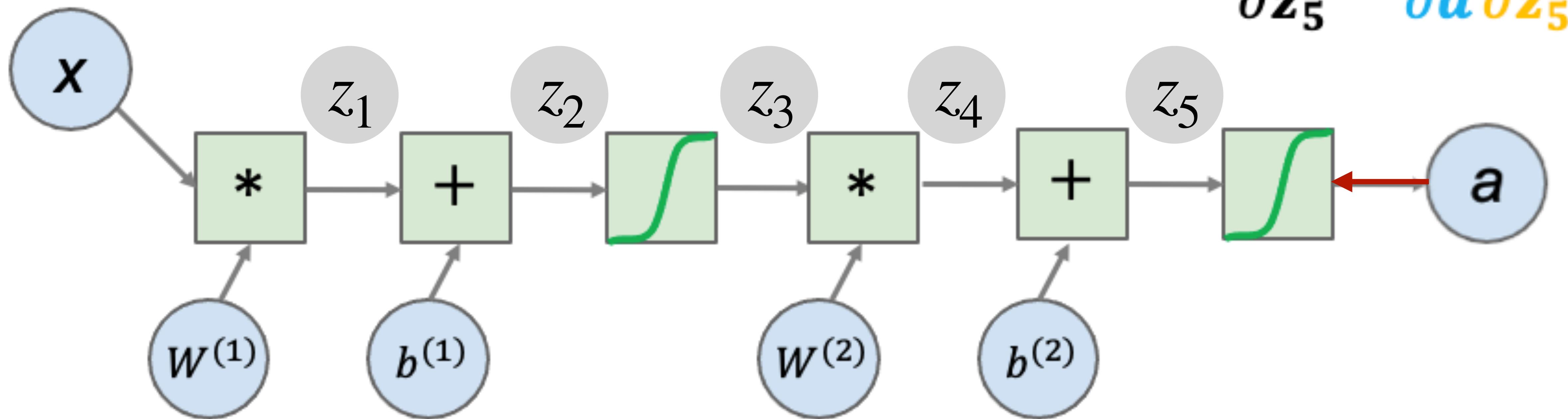
# Neural networks: backward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Assuming forward propagation is done
- Minimize a **loss function L**



# Neural networks: backward propagation

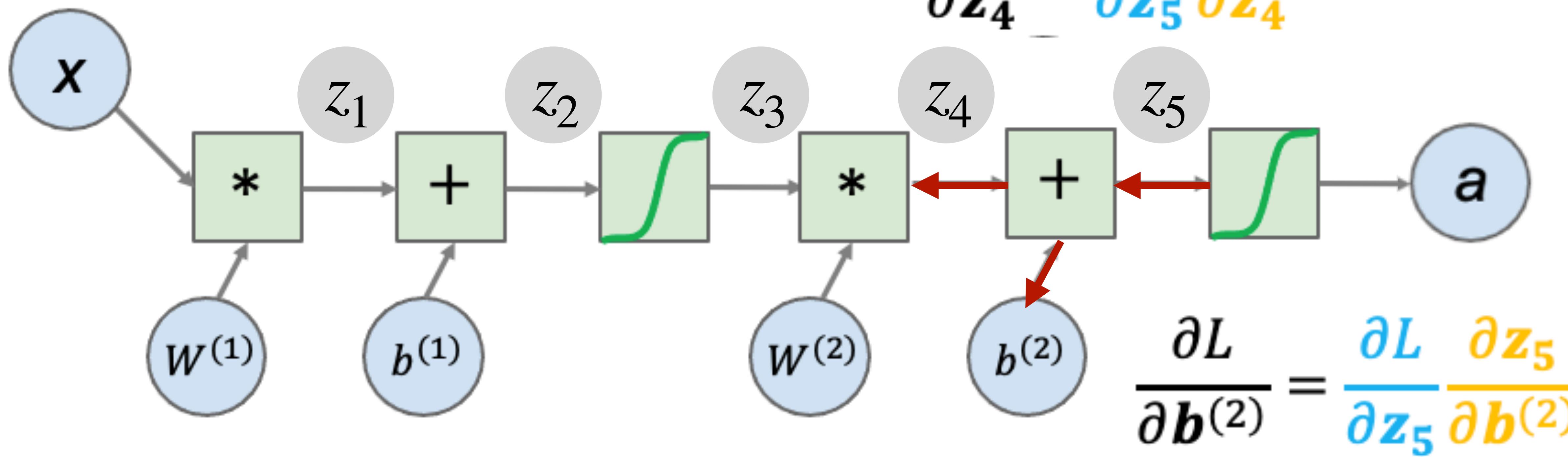
- A two-layer neural network
- Assuming forward propagation is done
- Minimize a **loss function L**



$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_5} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial a} \frac{\partial a}{\partial z_5}$$

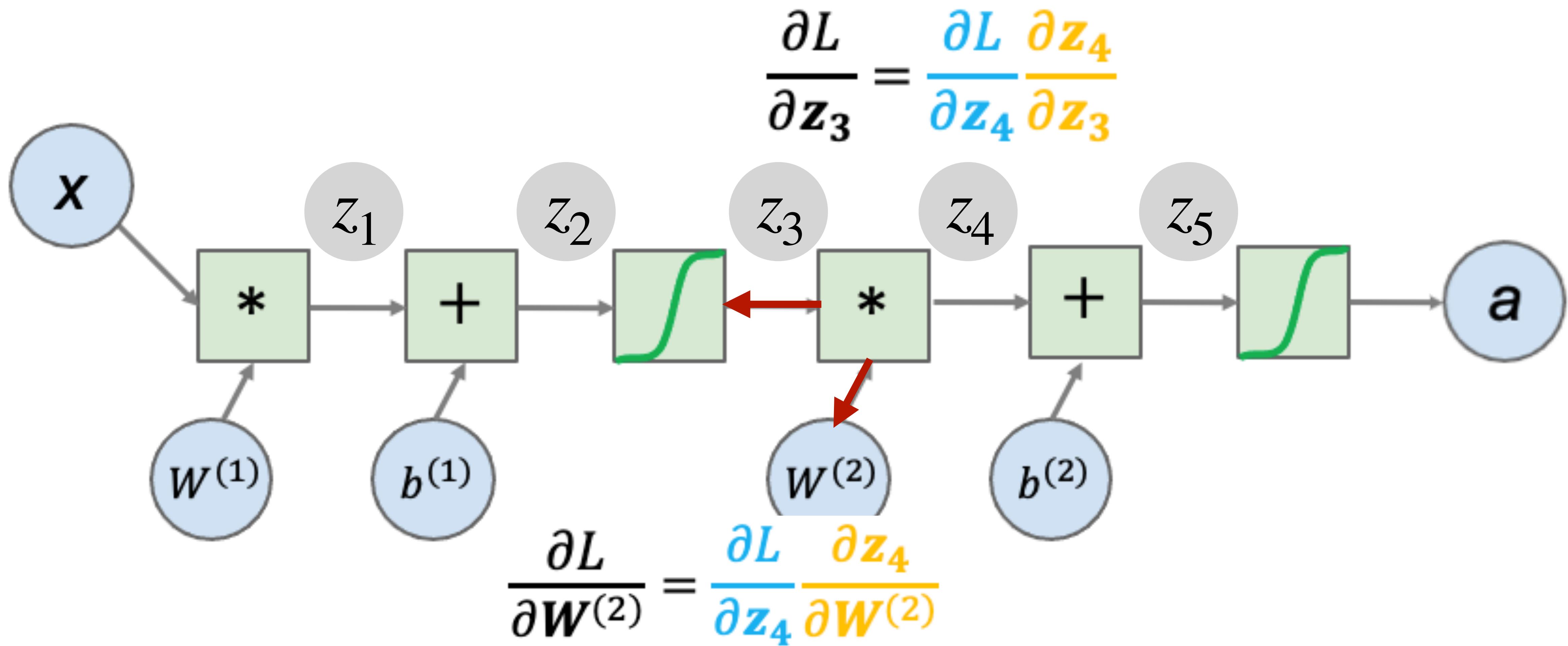
# Neural networks: backward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Assuming forward propagation is done
- Minimize a **loss function L**



# Neural networks: backward propagation

- A two-layer neural network
- Assuming forward propagation is done



# Backward propagation: A modern treatment

- Define a neural network as a computational graph
- Must be a directed graph
- Nodes as variables and operations
- All operations must be **differentiable**



# Part II: Numerical Stability

# Gradients for Neural Networks

- Compute the gradient of the loss  $\ell$  w.r.t.  $\mathbf{W}_t$

$$\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mathbf{W}^t} = \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mathbf{h}^d} \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}^d}{\partial \mathbf{h}^{d-1}} \cdots \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}^{t+1}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^t} \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}^t}{\partial \mathbf{W}^t}$$


Multiplication of *many* matrices



Wikipedia

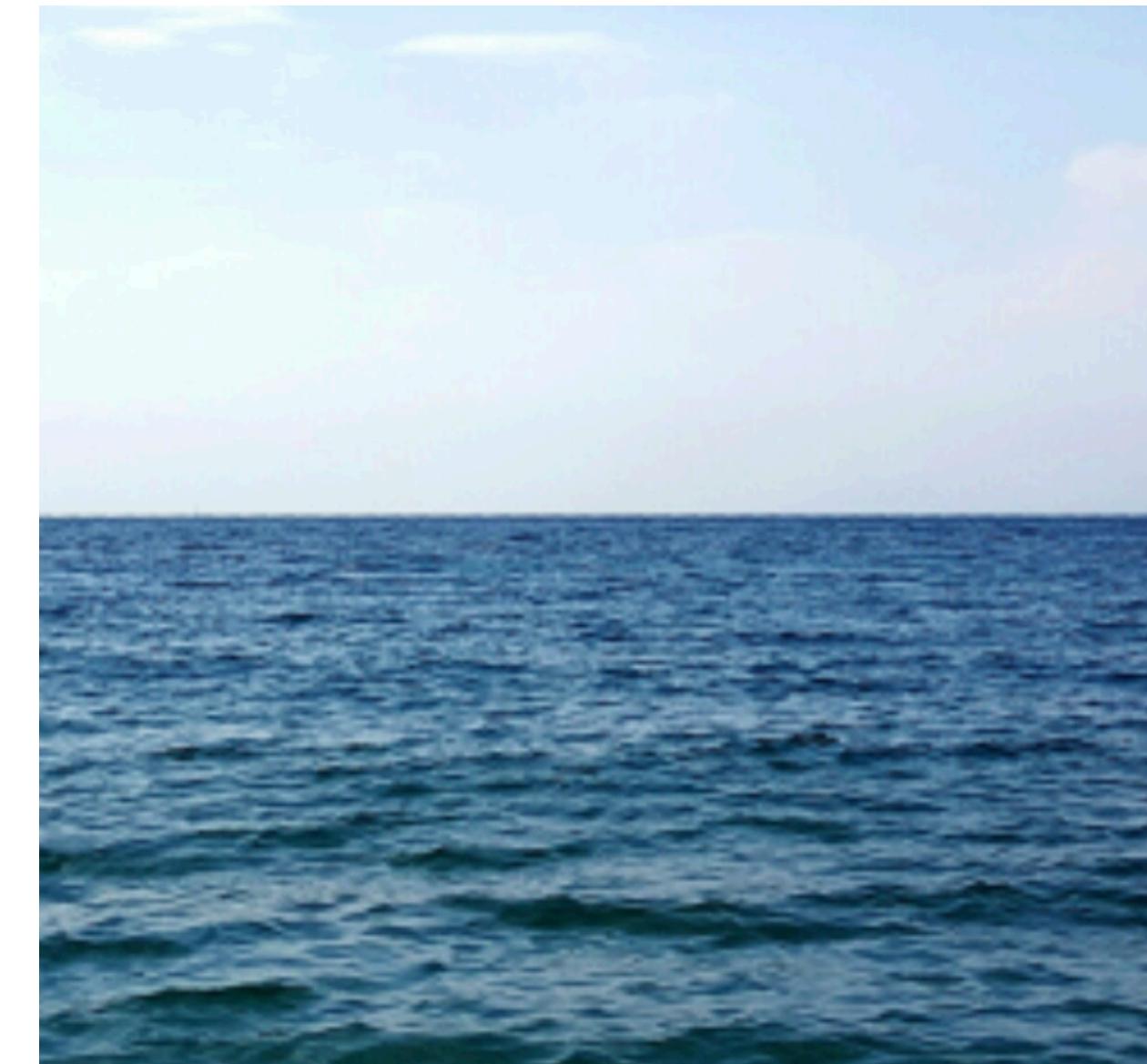
# Two Issues for Deep Neural Networks

$$\prod_{i=t}^{d-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}^{i+1}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^i}$$

Gradient Exploding



Gradient Vanishing



$$1.5^{100} \approx 4 \times 10^{17}$$

$$0.8^{100} \approx 2 \times 10^{-10}$$

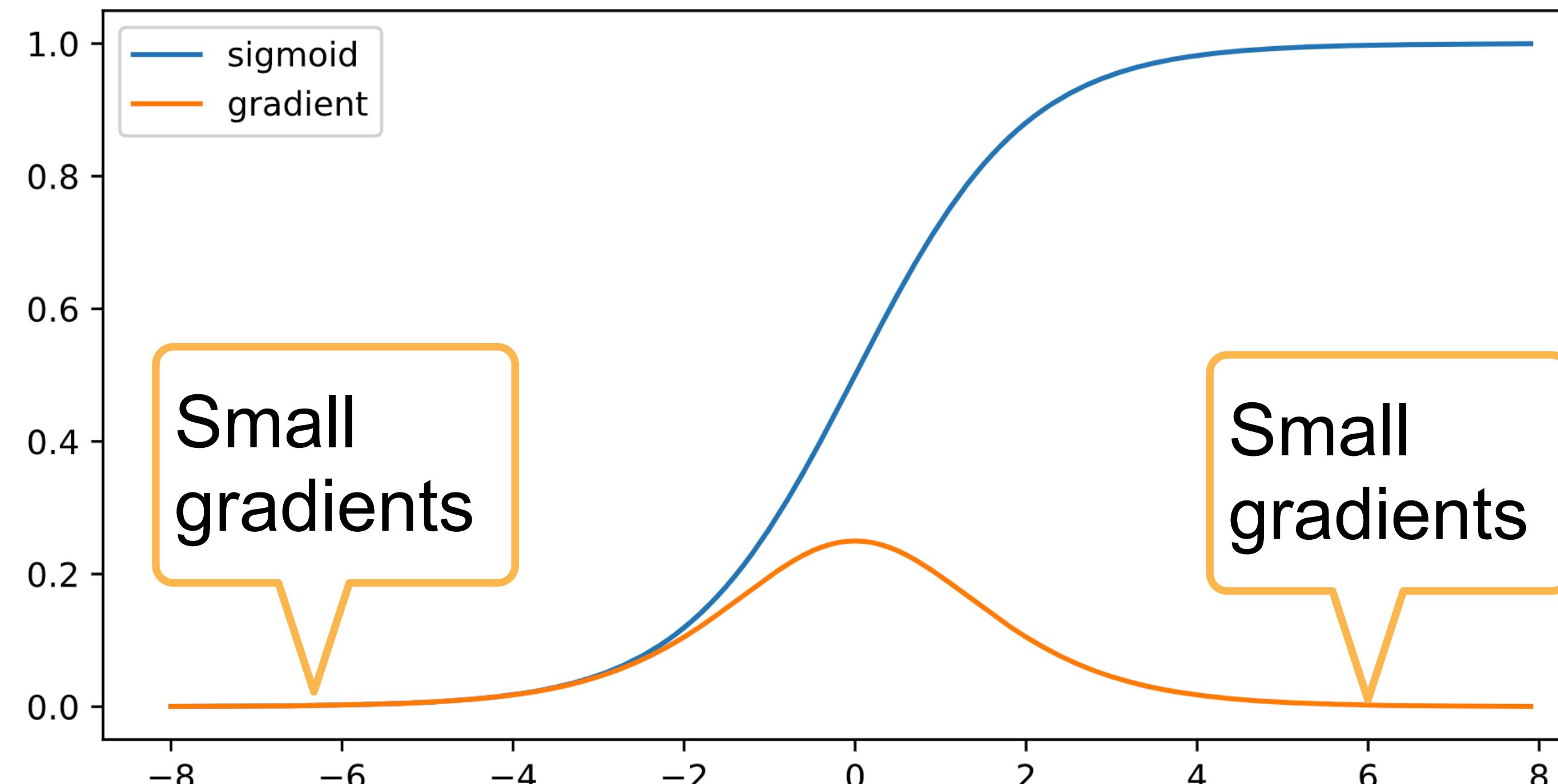
# Issues with Gradient Exploding

- Value out of range: infinity value (NaN)
- Sensitive to learning rate (LR)
  - Not small enough LR -> larger gradients
  - Too small LR -> No progress
  - May need to change LR dramatically during training

# Gradient Vanishing

- Use sigmoid as the activation function

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} \quad \sigma'(x) = \sigma(x)(1 - \sigma(x))$$



# Issues with Gradient Vanishing

- Gradients with value 0
- No progress in training
  - No matter how to choose learning rate
- Severe with bottom layers
  - Only top layers are well trained
  - No benefit to make networks deeper

# **How to stabilize training?**



# Stabilize Training: Practical Considerations

# Stabilize Training: Practical Considerations

- Goal: make sure gradient values are in a proper range
  - E.g. in  $[1e-6, 1e3]$

# Stabilize Training: Practical Considerations

- Goal: make sure gradient values are in a proper range
  - E.g. in [1e-6, 1e3]
  - Multiplication -> plus
  - Architecture change (e.g., ResNet)

# Stabilize Training: Practical Considerations

- Goal: make sure gradient values are in a proper range
  - E.g. in [1e-6, 1e3]
  - Multiplication -> plus
    - Architecture change (e.g., ResNet)
  - Normalize
  - Batch Normalization, Gradient clipping

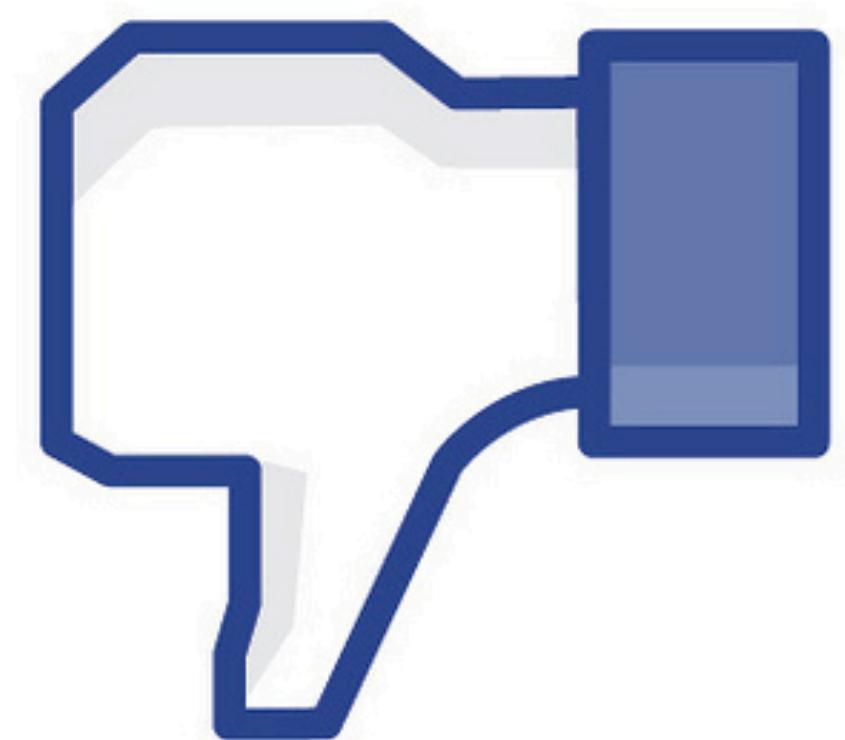
# Stabilize Training: Practical Considerations

- Goal: make sure gradient values are in a proper range
  - E.g. in [1e-6, 1e3]
- Multiplication -> plus
  - Architecture change (e.g., ResNet)
- Normalize
  - Batch Normalization, Gradient clipping
- Proper activation functions



# Part III: Generalization & Regularization

**How good are  
the models?**



# Training Error and Generalization Error

- Training error: model error on the training data
- **Generalization error:** model error on new data
- Example: practice a future exam with past exams
  - Doing well on past exams (training error) doesn't guarantee a good score on the future exam (generalization error)

# **Underfitting**

# **Overfitting**



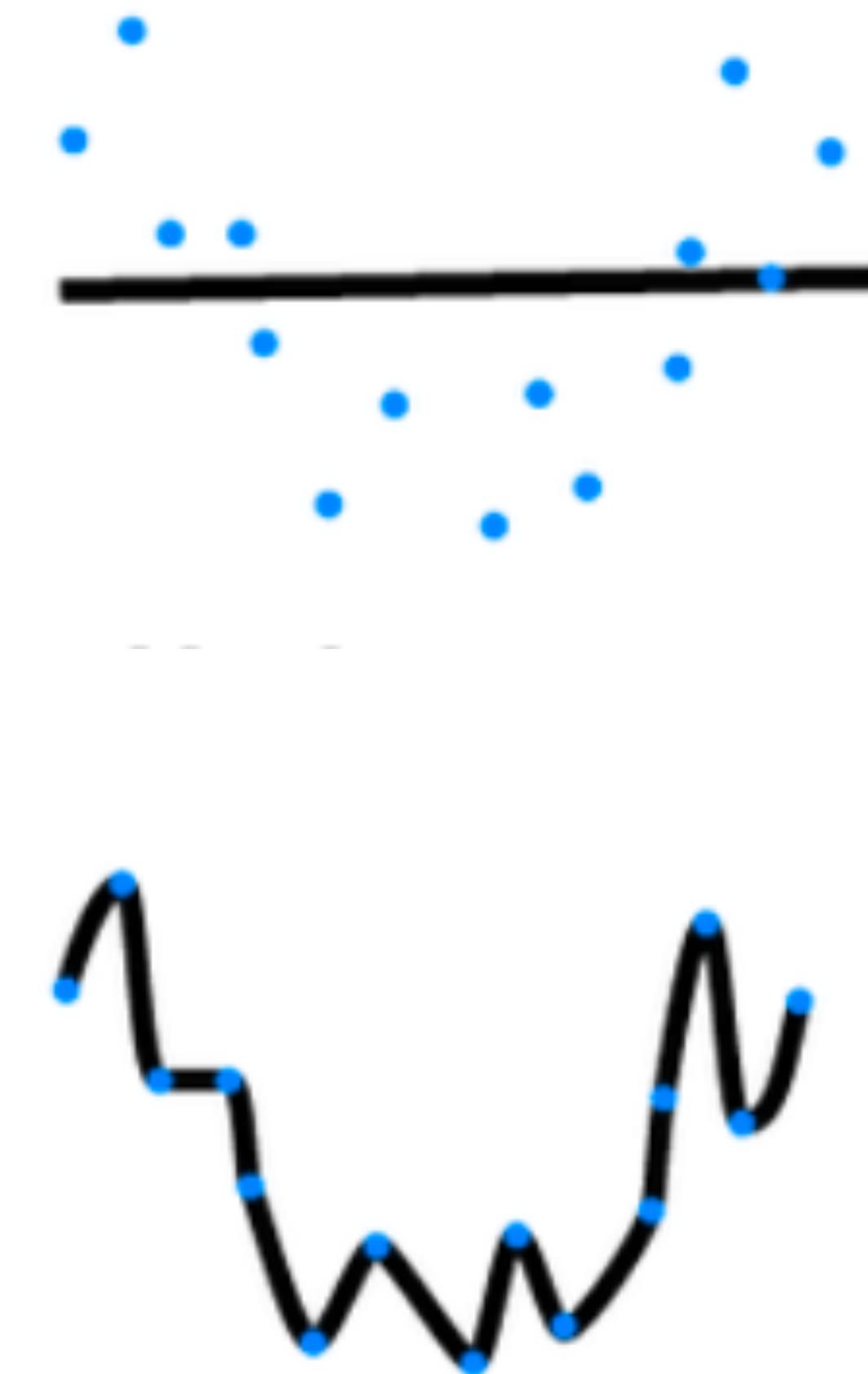
Image credit: [hackernoon.com](https://hackernoon.com)

# Model Capacity



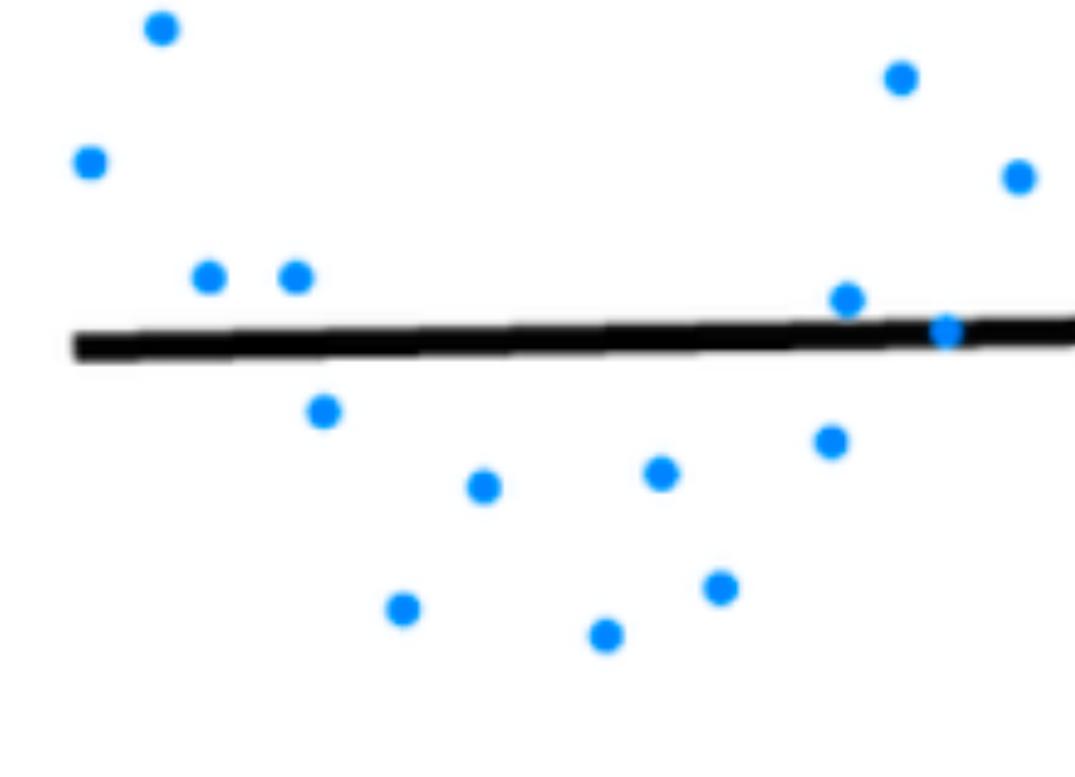
# Model Capacity

- The ability to fit variety of functions



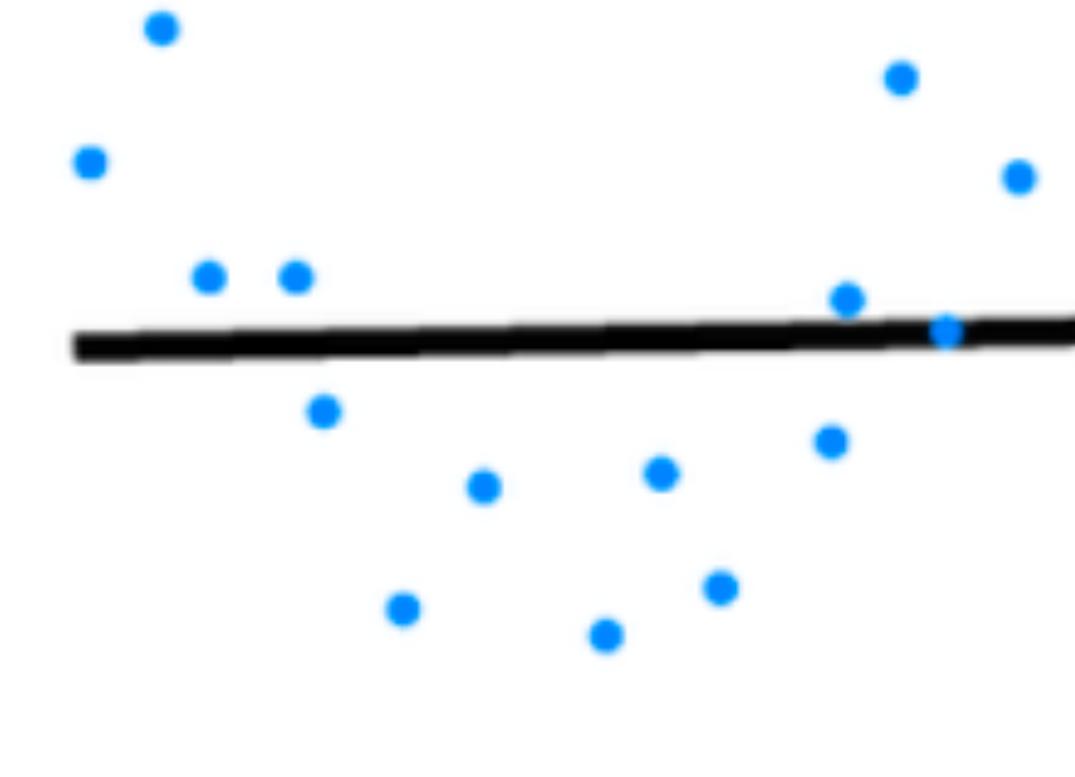
# Model Capacity

- The ability to fit variety of functions
- Low capacity models struggles to fit training set
  - Underfitting

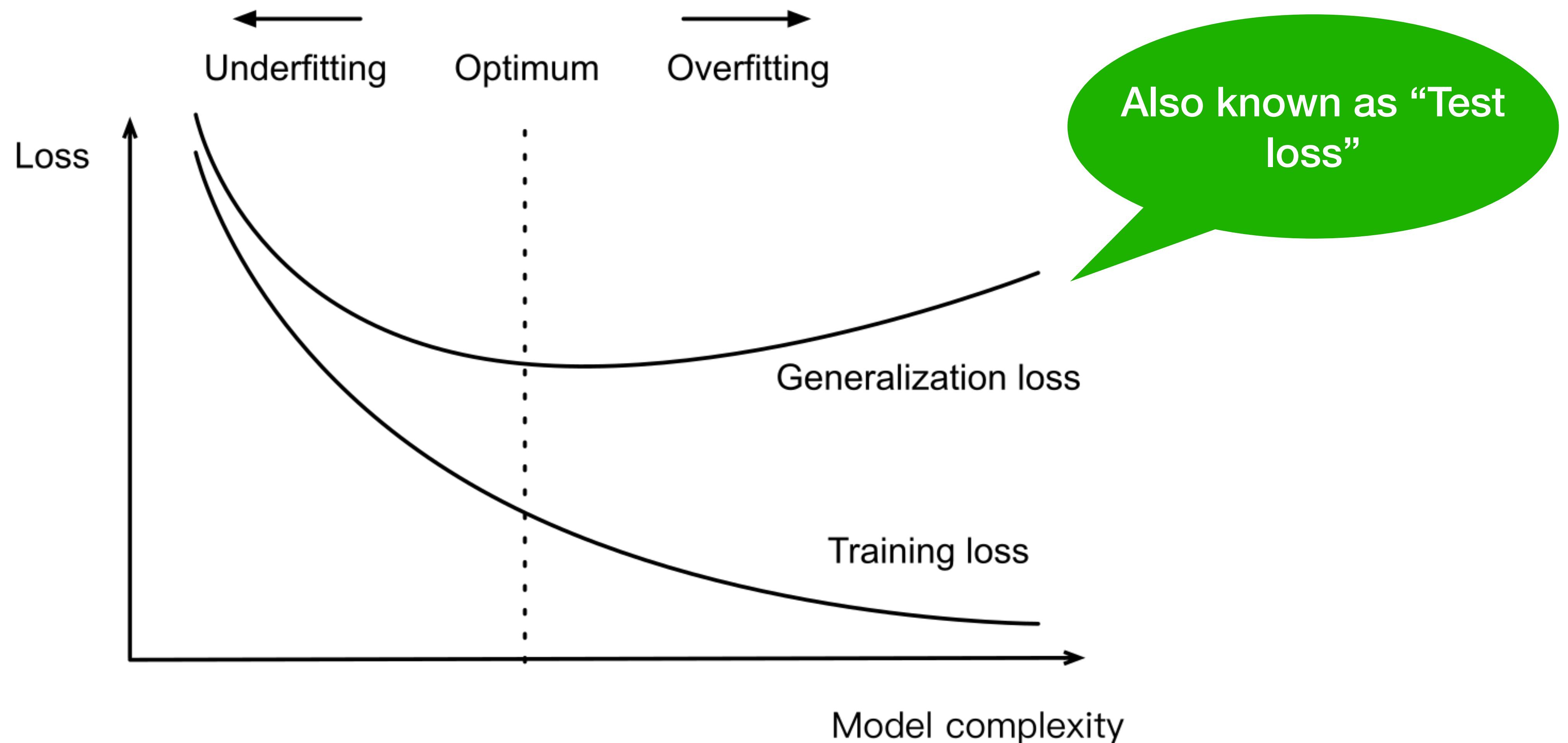


# Model Capacity

- The ability to fit variety of functions
- Low capacity models struggles to fit training set
  - Underfitting
- High capacity models can memorize the training set
  - Overfitting



# Influence of Model Complexity

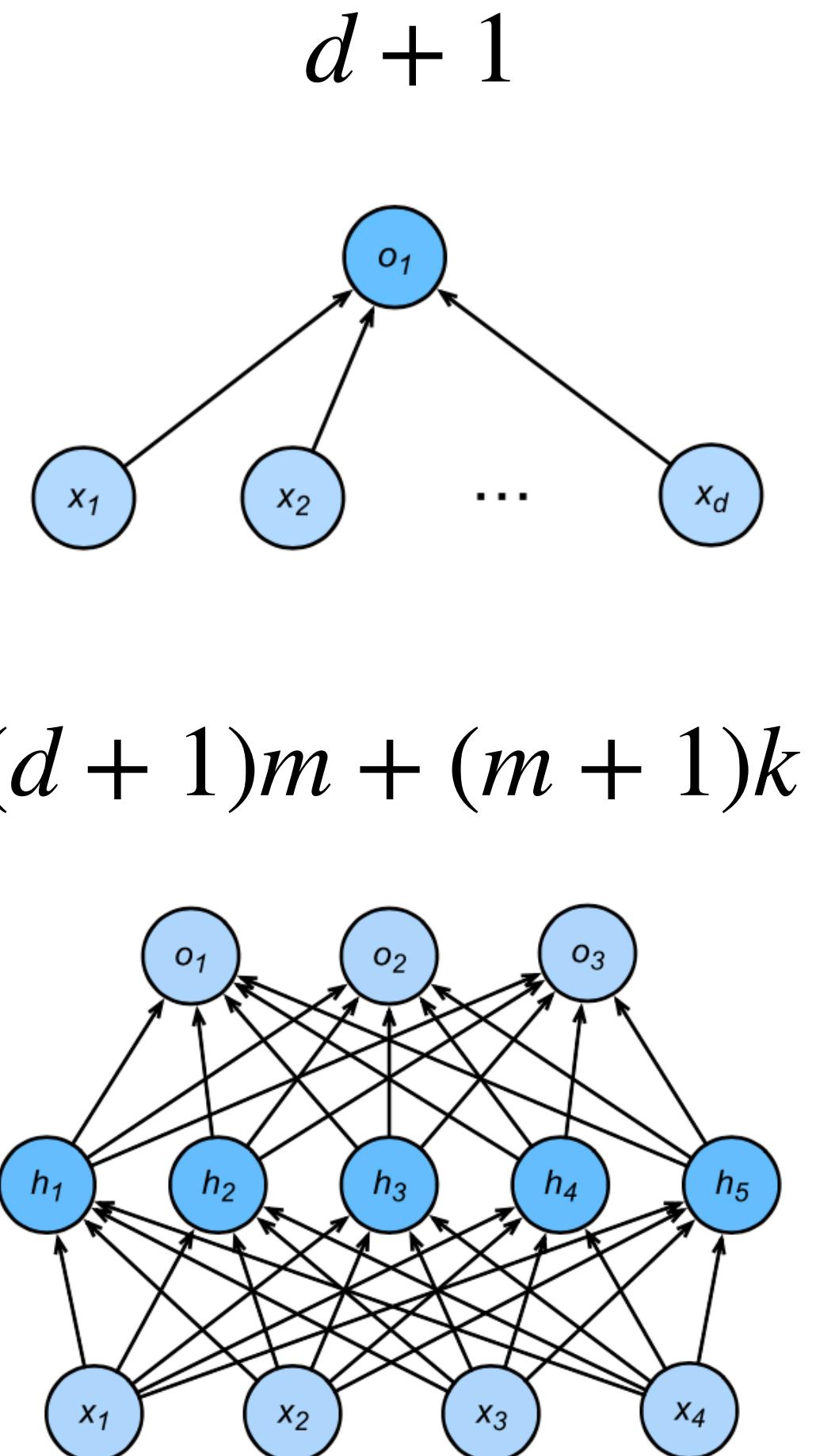


# Estimate Neural Network Capacity

- It's hard to compare complexity between different algorithms
  - e.g. tree vs neural network

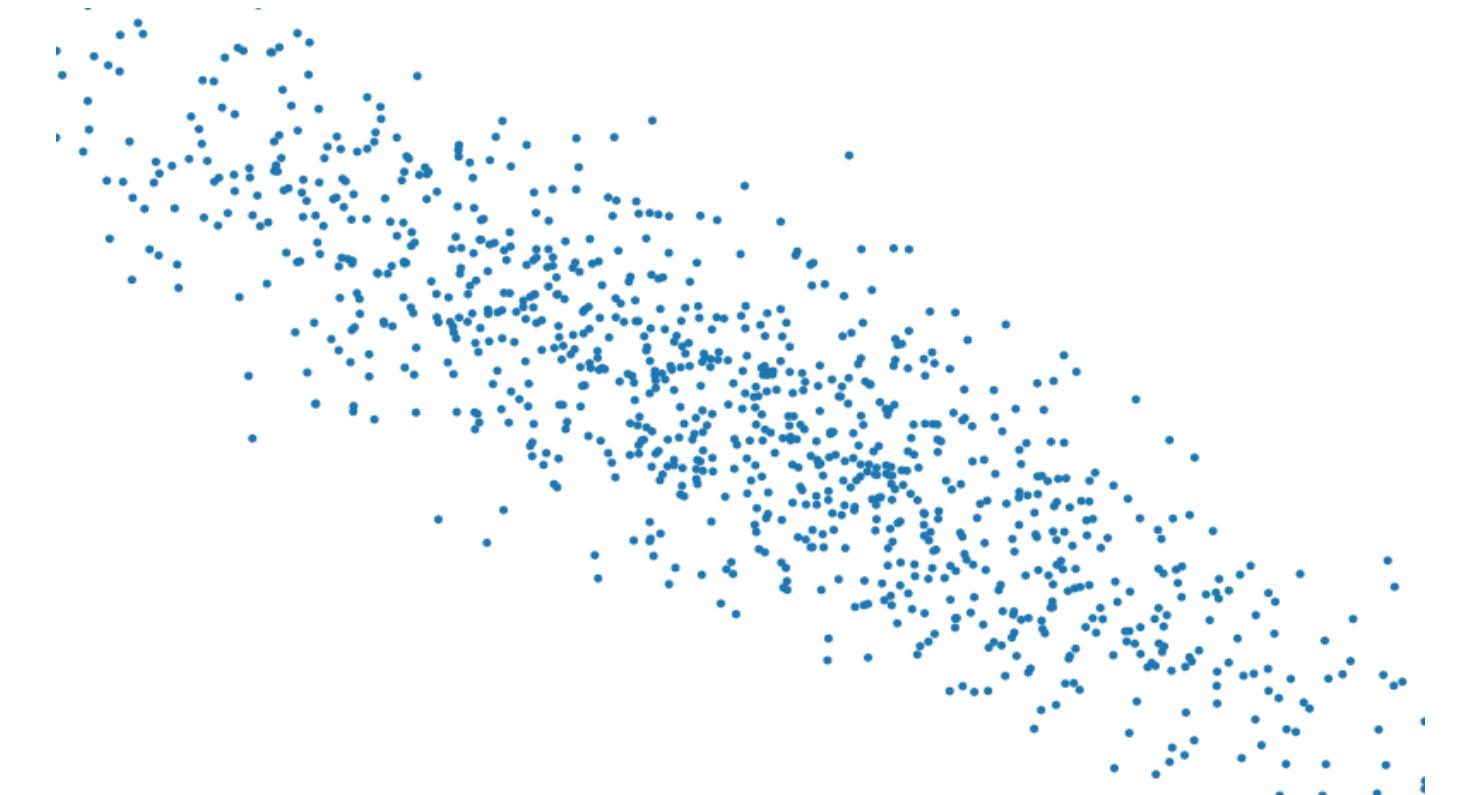
# Estimate Neural Network Capacity

- It's hard to compare complexity between different algorithms
  - e.g. tree vs neural network
- Given an algorithm family, two main factors matter:
  - The number of parameters
  - The values taken by each parameter



# Data Complexity

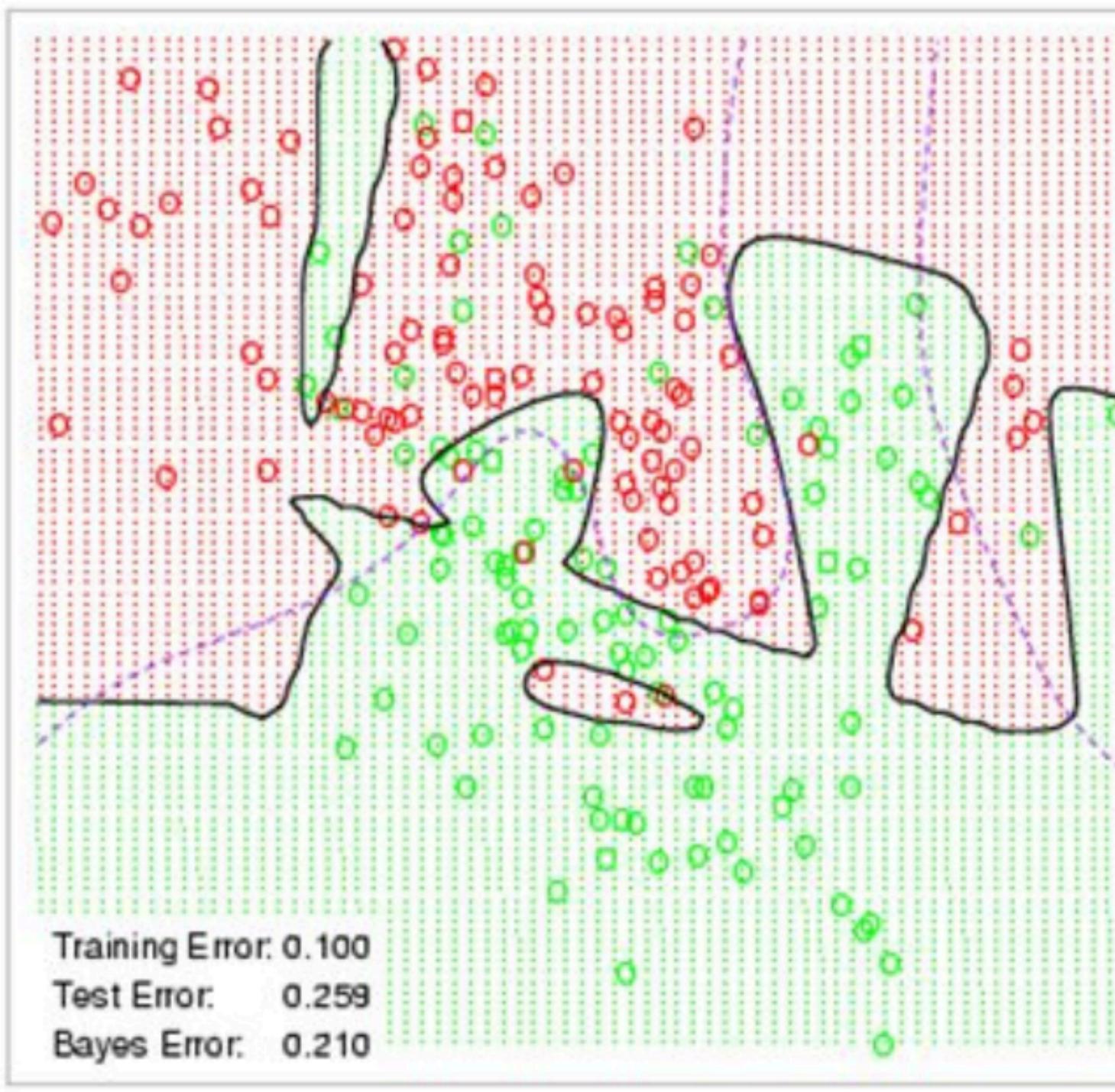
- Multiple factors matters
  - # of examples
  - # of features in each example
  - time/space structure
  - # of labels



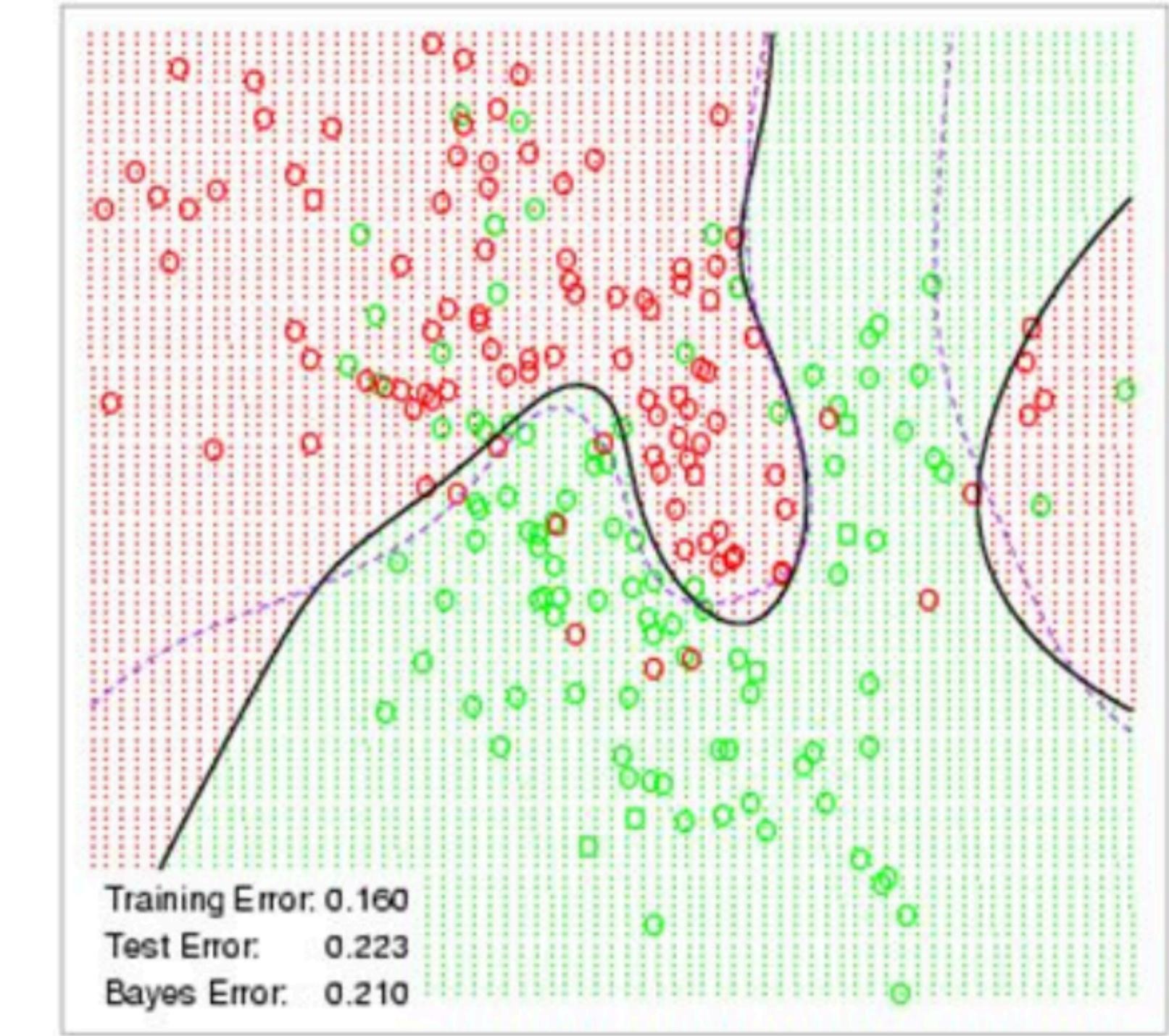
# **How to regularize the model for better generalization?**

# Weight Decay

Neural Network - 10 Units, No Weight Decay



Neural Network - 10 Units, Weight Decay=0.02

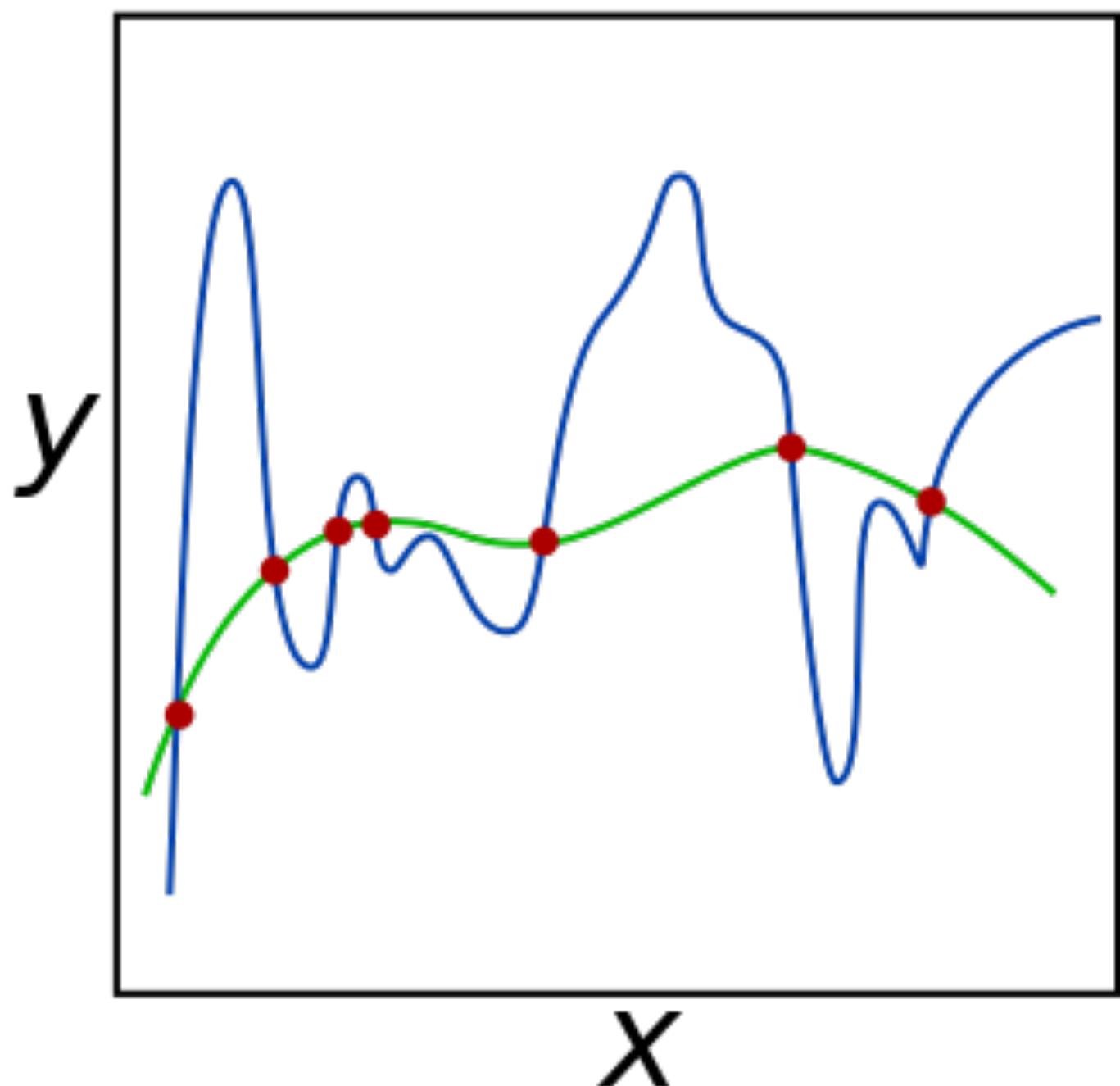


# Squared Norm Regularization as Hard Constraint

- Reduce model complexity by limiting value range

$$\min L(\mathbf{w}, b) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \leq B$$

- Often do not regularize bias  $b$ 
  - Doing or not doing has little difference in practice
- A small  $B$  means more regularization



# Squared Norm Regularization as Soft Constraint

- We can rewrite the hard constraint version as

$$\min L(\mathbf{w}, b) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

# Squared Norm Regularization as Soft Constraint

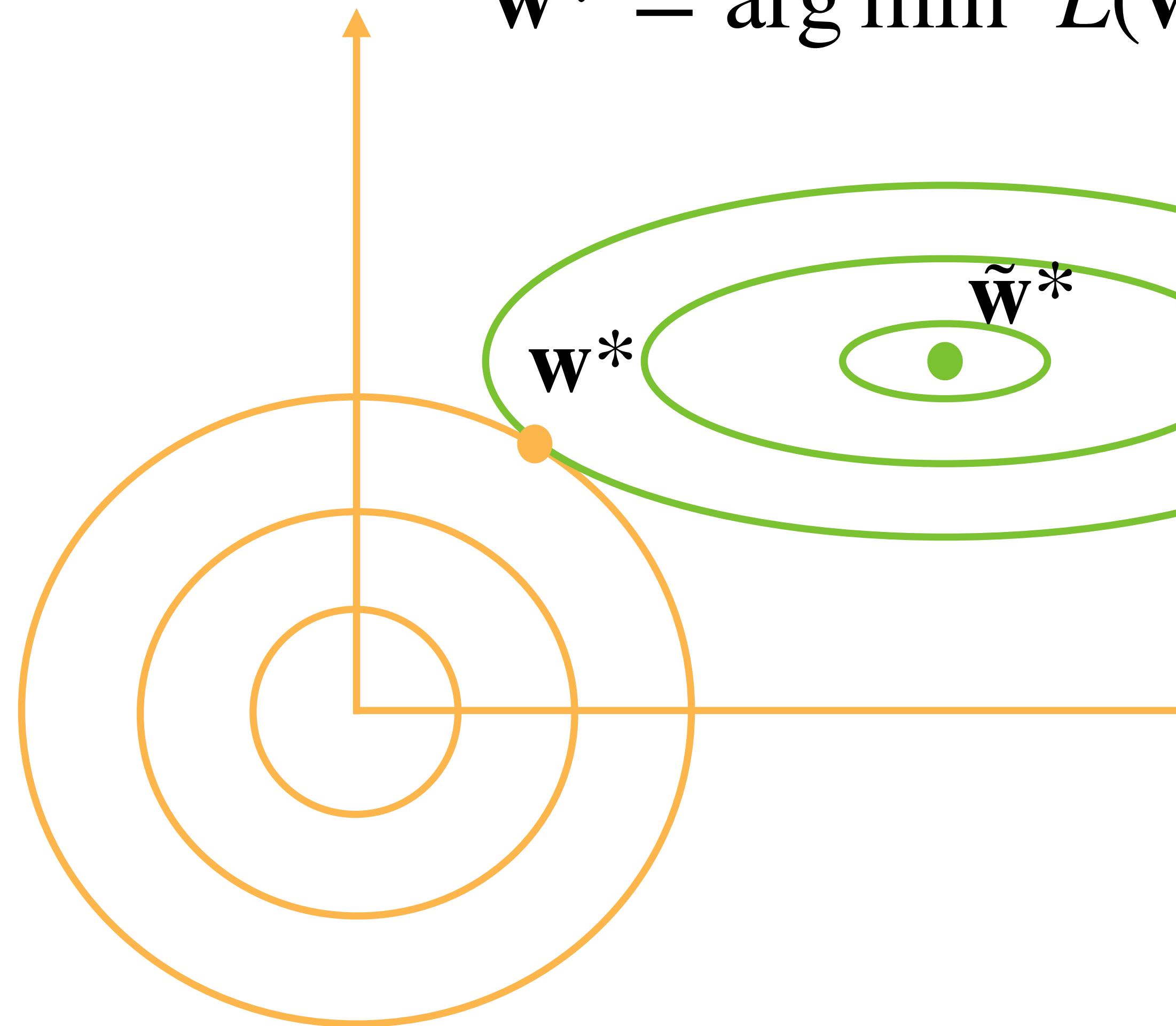
- We can rewrite the hard constraint version as

$$\min L(\mathbf{w}, b) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

- Hyper-parameter  $\lambda$  controls regularization importance
  - $\lambda = 0$  : no effect
  - $\lambda \rightarrow \infty, \mathbf{w}^* \rightarrow 0$

# Illustrate the Effect on Optimal Solutions

$$\mathbf{w}^* = \arg \min L(\mathbf{w}, b) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$



$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}^* = \arg \min L(\mathbf{w}, b)$$

# Dropout

Hinton et al.



# Apply Dropout

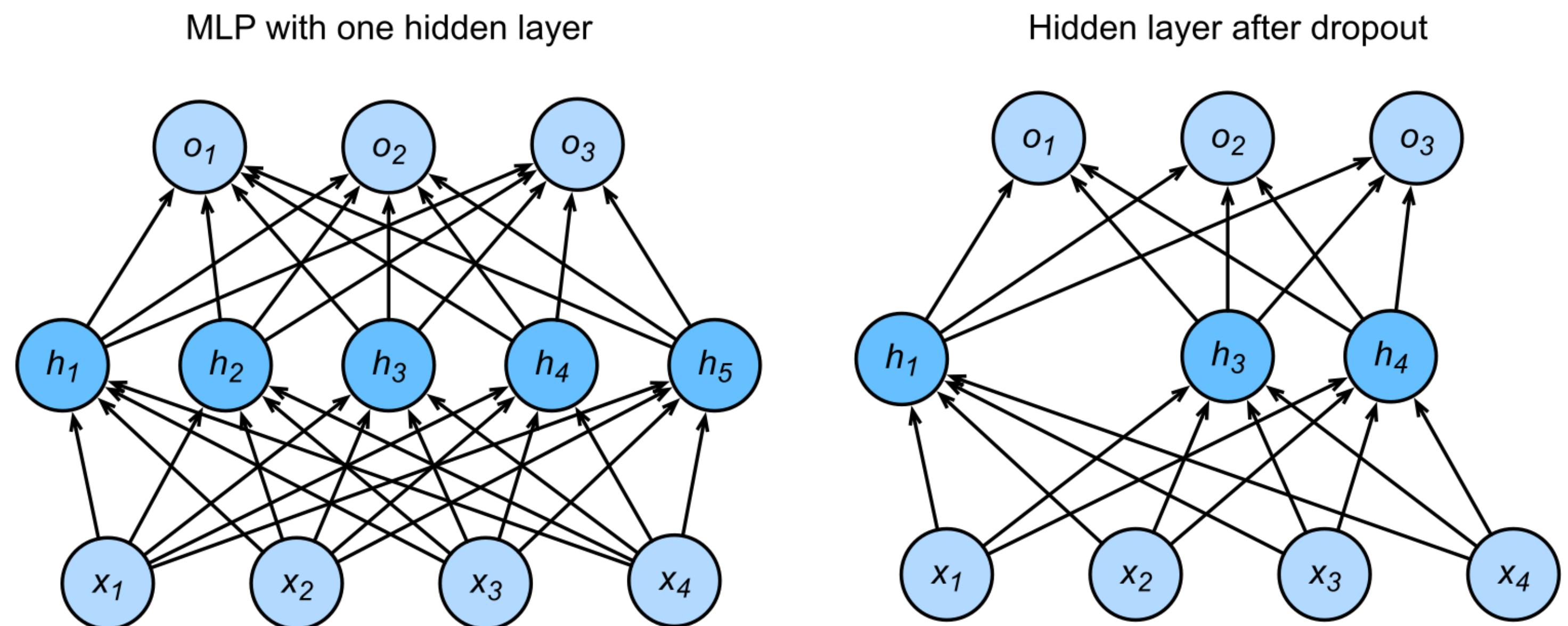
- Often apply dropout on the output of hidden fully-connected layers

$$\mathbf{h} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(1)}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^{(1)})$$

$$\mathbf{h}' = \text{dropout}(\mathbf{h})$$

$$\mathbf{o} = \mathbf{W}^{(2)}\mathbf{h}' + \mathbf{b}^{(2)}$$

$$\mathbf{p} = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{o})$$



# Dropout

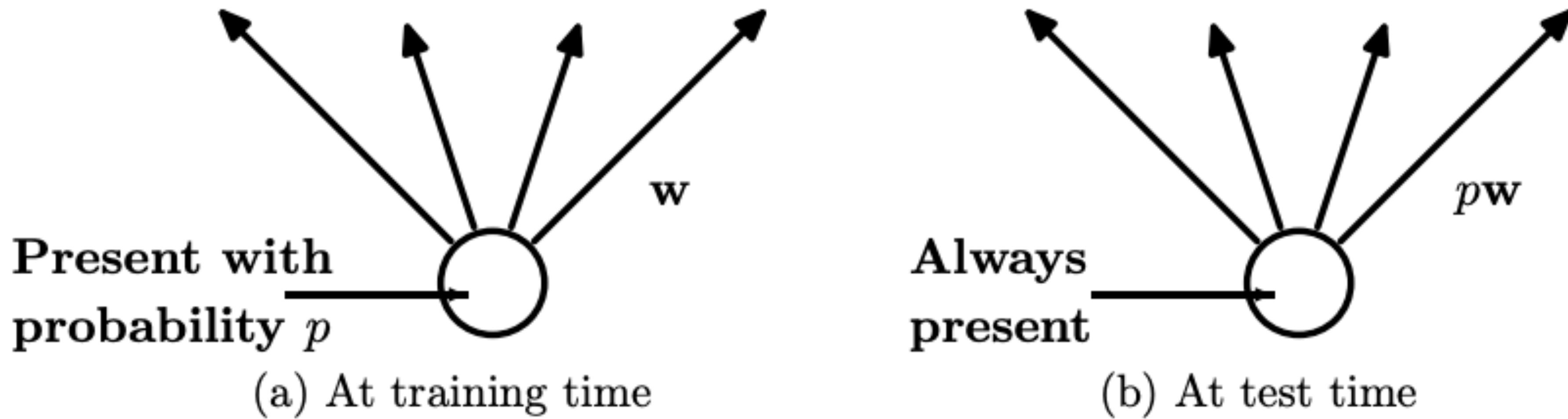


Figure 2: **Left:** A unit at training time that is present with probability  $p$  and is connected to units in the next layer with weights  $w$ . **Right:** At test time, the unit is always present and the weights are multiplied by  $p$ . The output at test time is same as the expected output at training time.

# Dropout

Hinton et al.

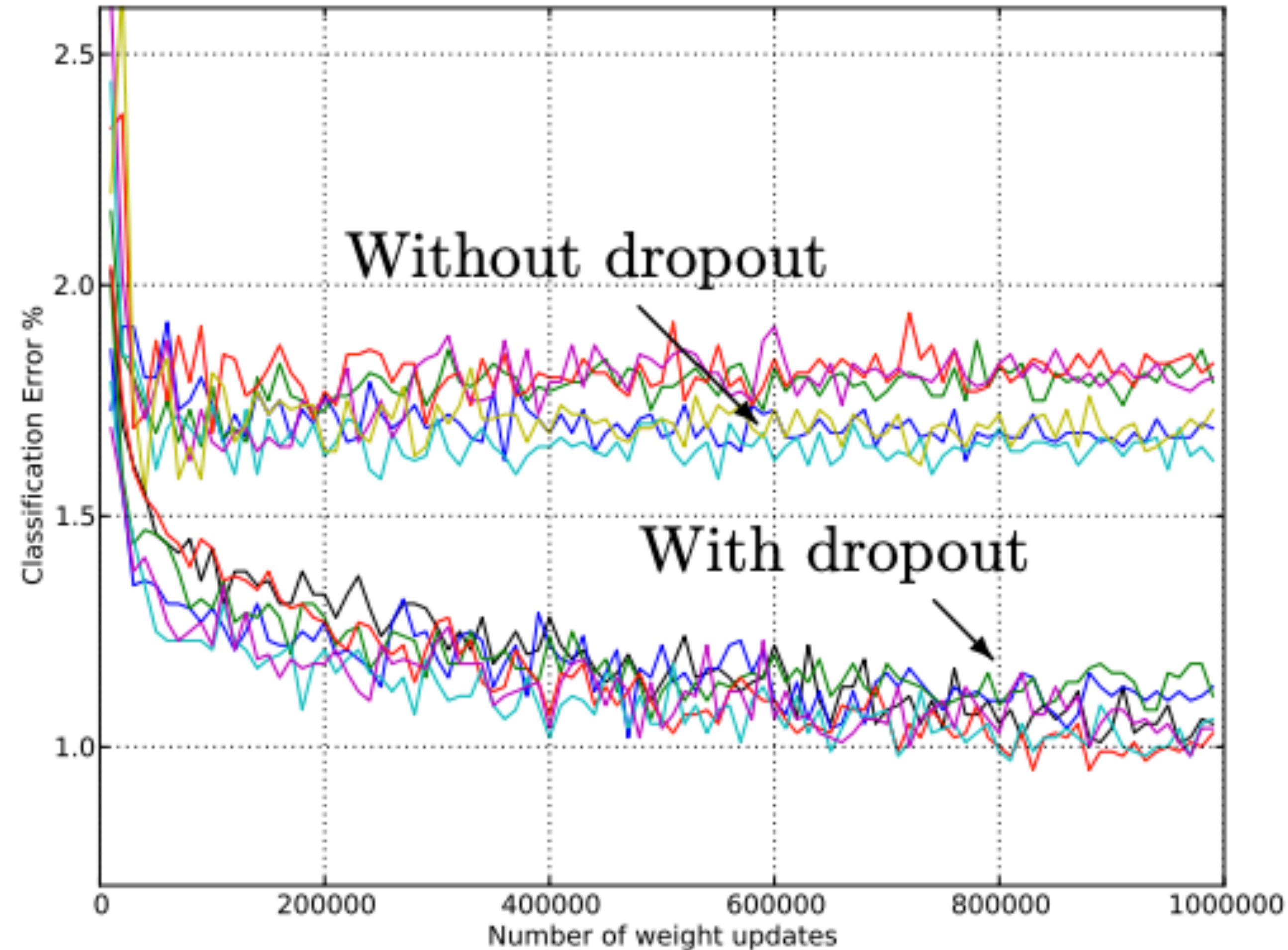


Figure 4: Test error for different architectures with and without dropout. The networks have 2 to 4 hidden layers each with 1024 to 2048 units.

# What we've learned today...

- Deep neural networks
  - Computational graph (forward and backward propagation)
- Numerical stability in training
  - Gradient vanishing/exploding
- Generalization and regularization
  - Overfitting, underfitting
  - Weight decay and dropout